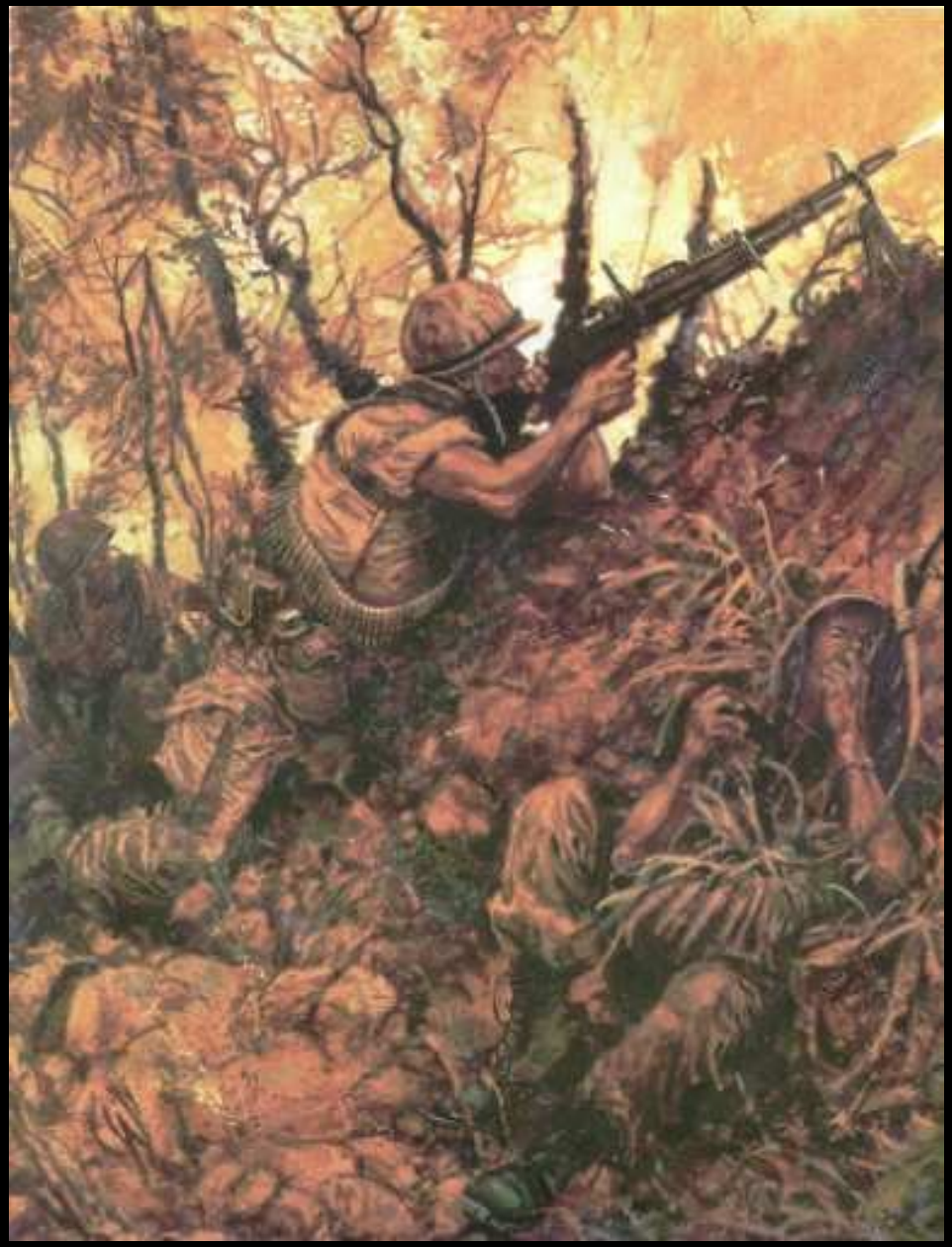


Intro to Machine Gun Employment

GUEST SPEAKER

SgtMaj John O. Henry (USMC, Ret.)

RESTAURANT

READINGS

Colder than Hell

- Joseph R. Owen

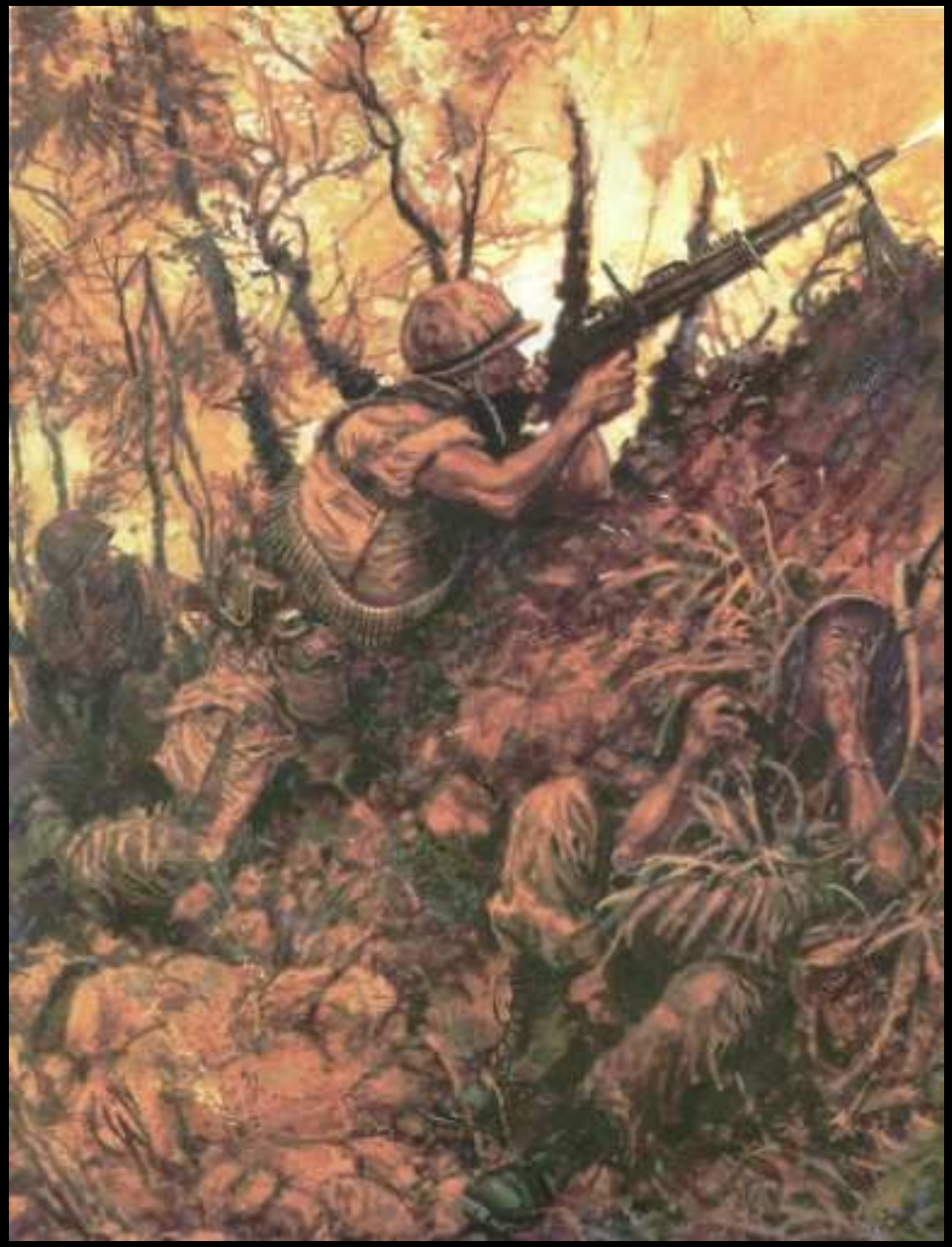
Breakout

- Martin Russ

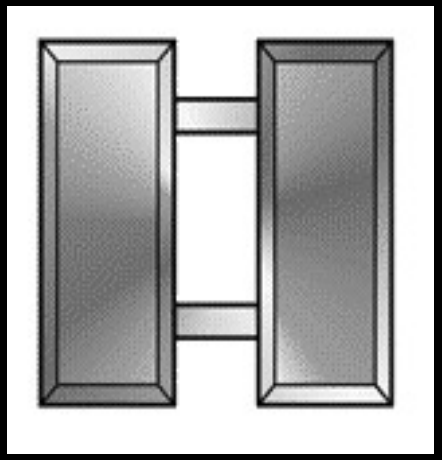
Toktong Pass

- Martin Russ

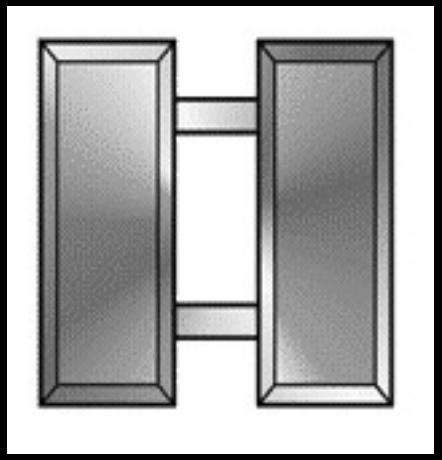
10 Minute Break



Intro to Machine Gun Employment



HAMILTON

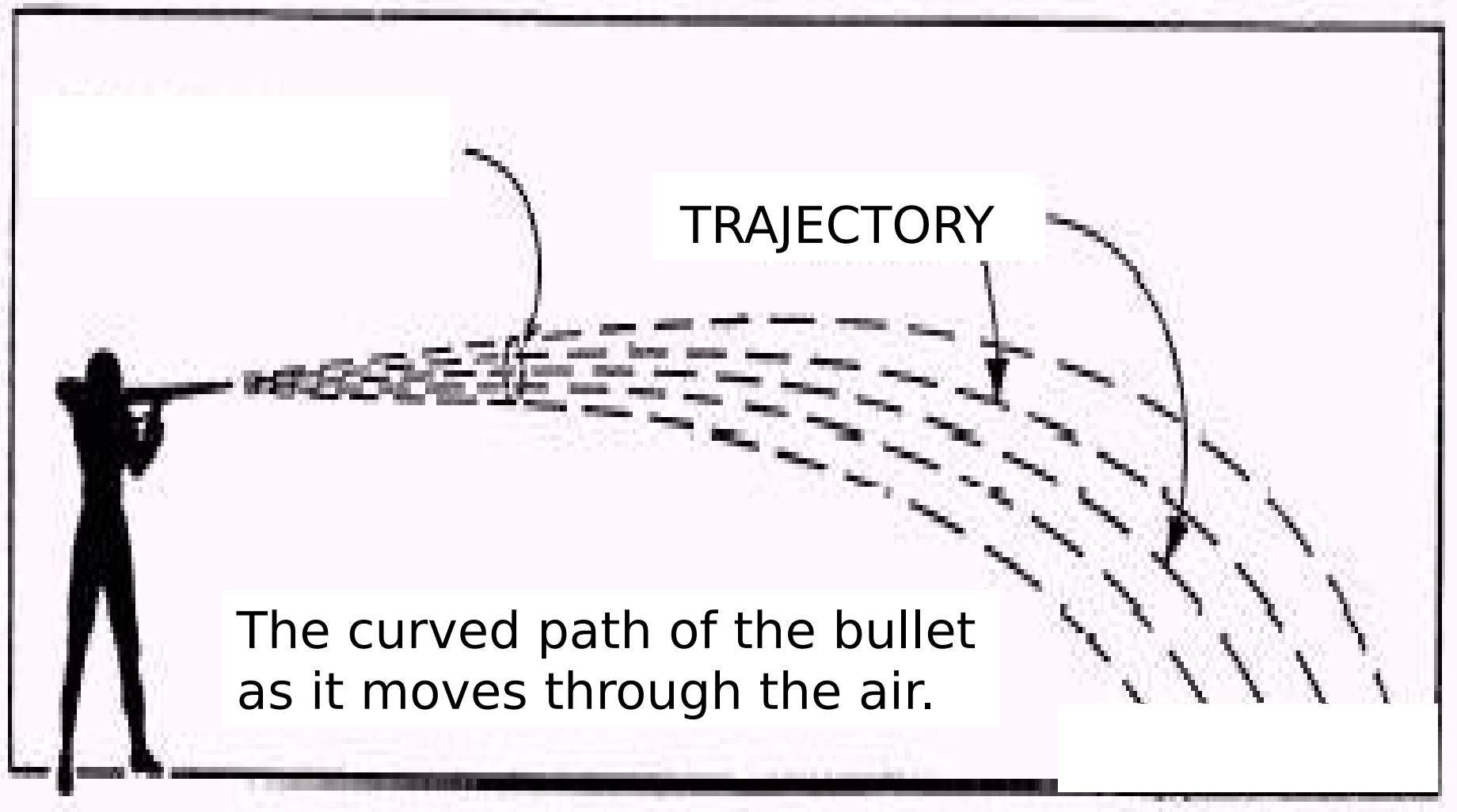


WIDMAN

PREVIEW

- Characteristics/Classes of MG Fires
- Soldier's Load
- 8 Principles of MG Employment
- Support Relationships
- MGs in the Offense & Defense

CHARACTERISTICS OF MACHINE GUN FIRE

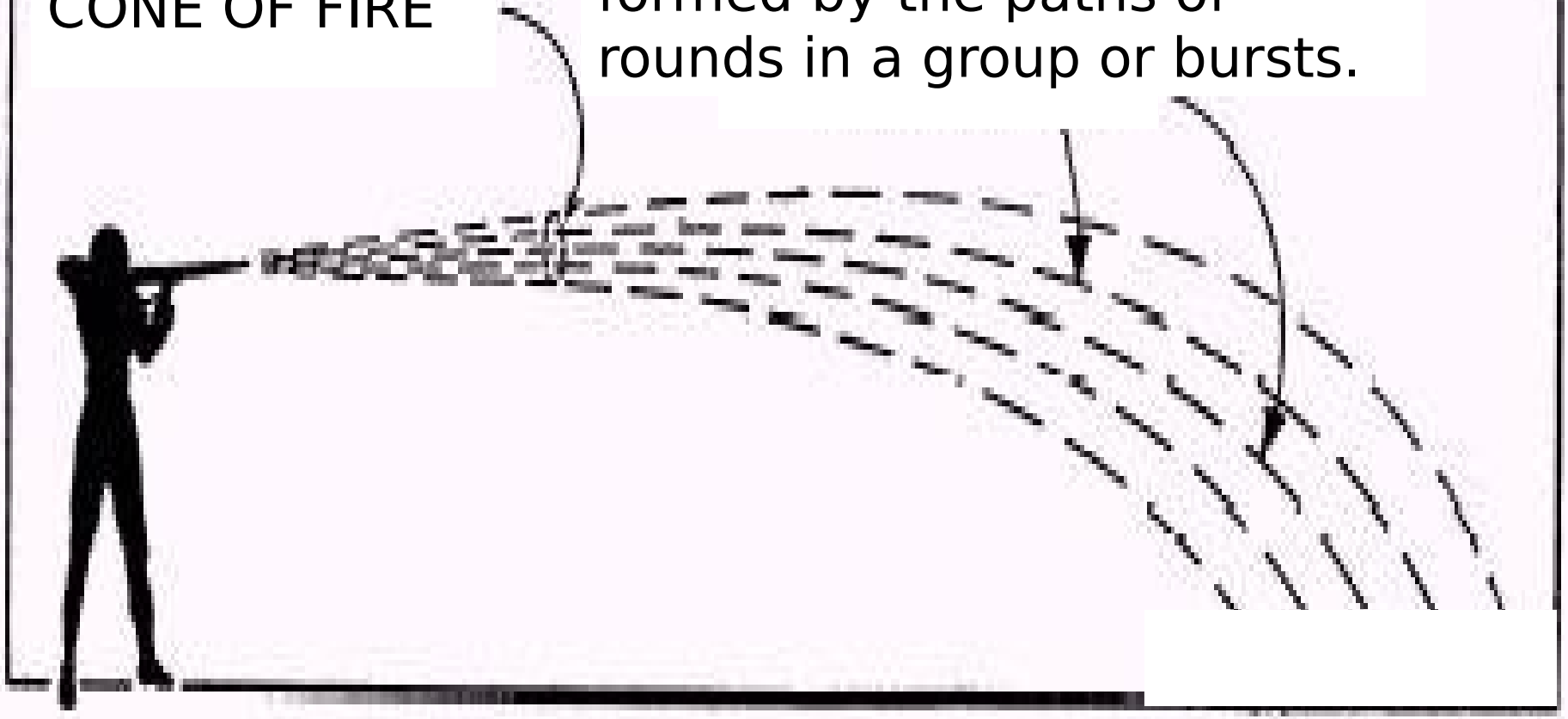


The curved path of the bullet as it moves through the air.

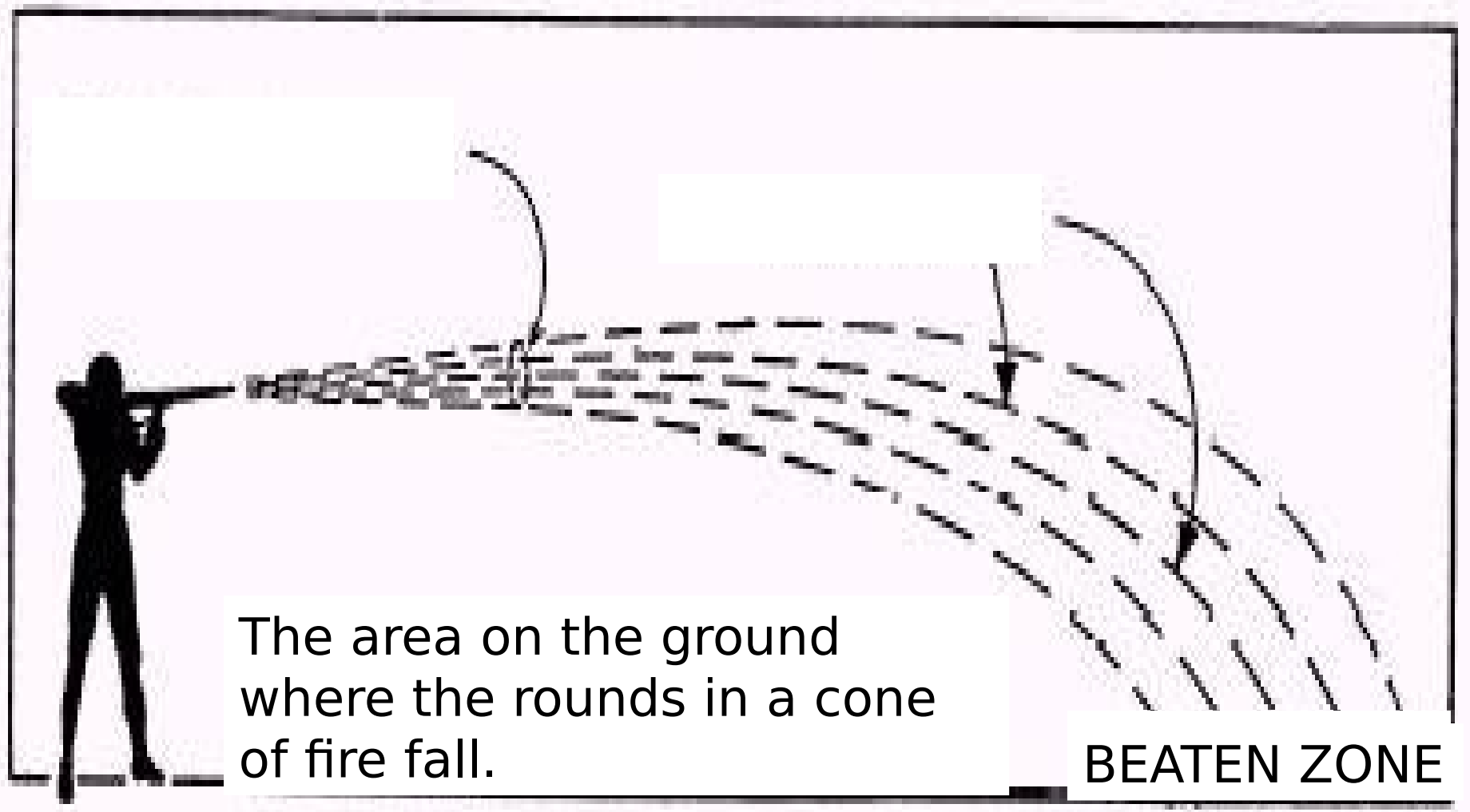
CHARACTERISTICS OF MACHINE GUN FIRE

CONE OF FIRE

The cone-shaped pattern formed by the paths of rounds in a group or bursts.



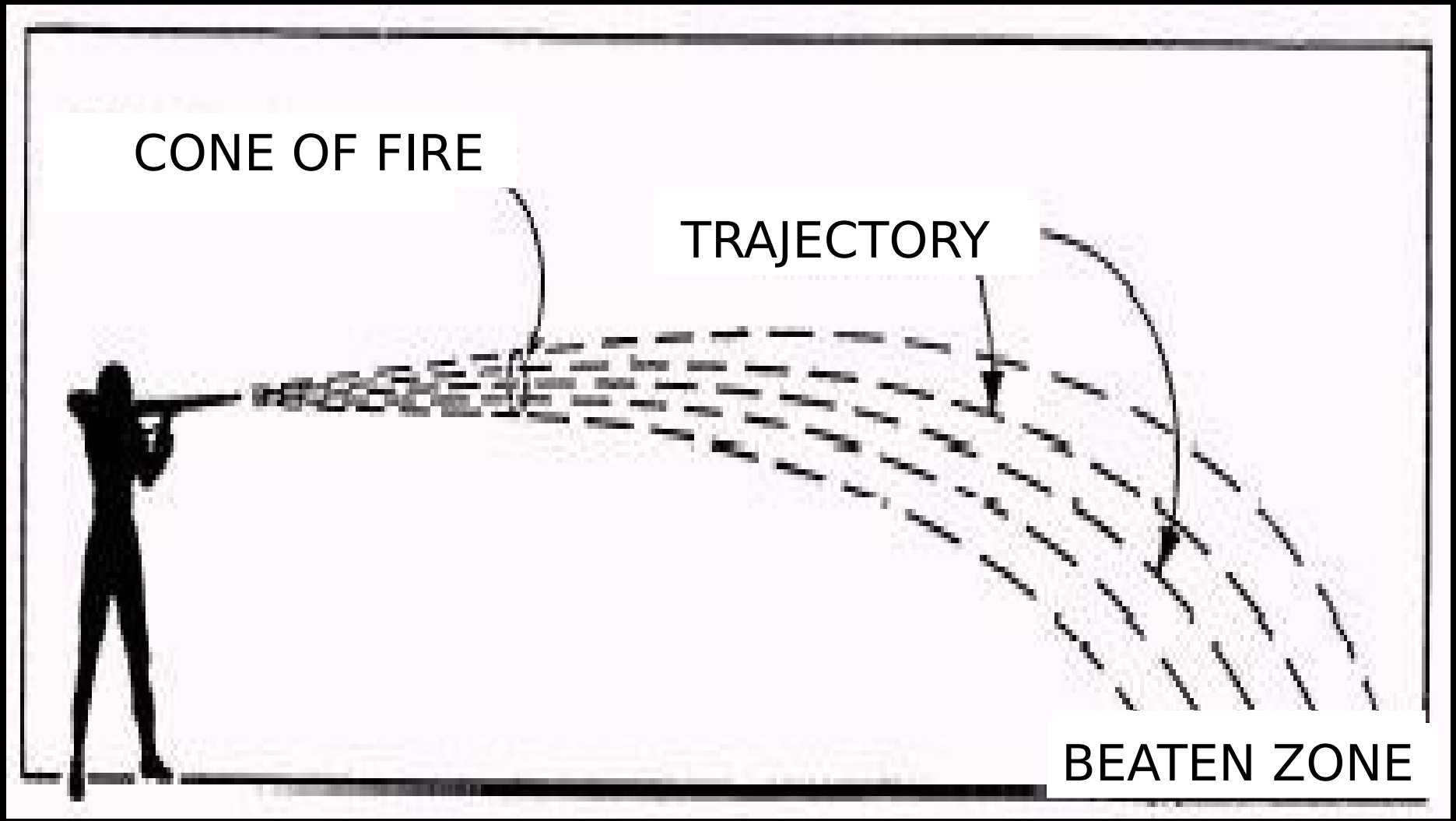
CHARACTERISTICS OF MACHINE GUN FIRE



The area on the ground where the rounds in a cone of fire fall.

BEATEN ZONE

CHARACTERISTICS OF MACHINE GUN FIRE



MACHINEGUN FIRE

With respect to the:

- Ground
- Target
- Gun

MACHINEGUN FIRE

With respect to the **Ground**:

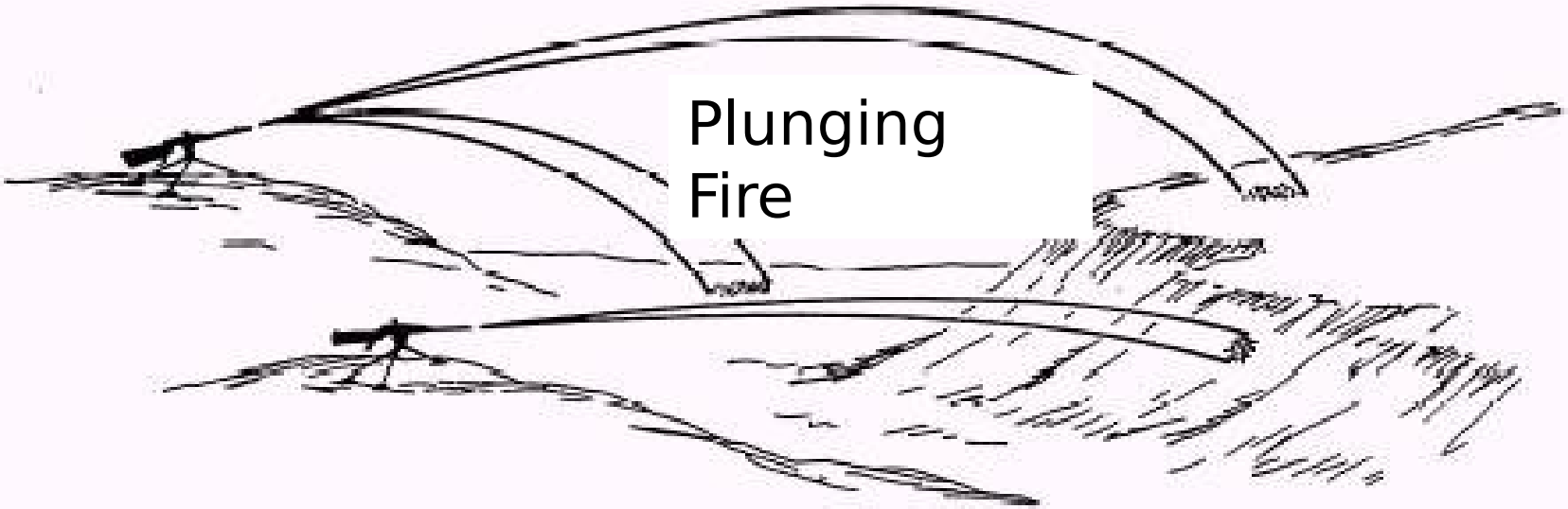
Grazing Fire

Fire in which the center of the cone of fire does not rise above **one meter** from the ground

MACHINEGUN FIRE

With respect to the **Ground**:

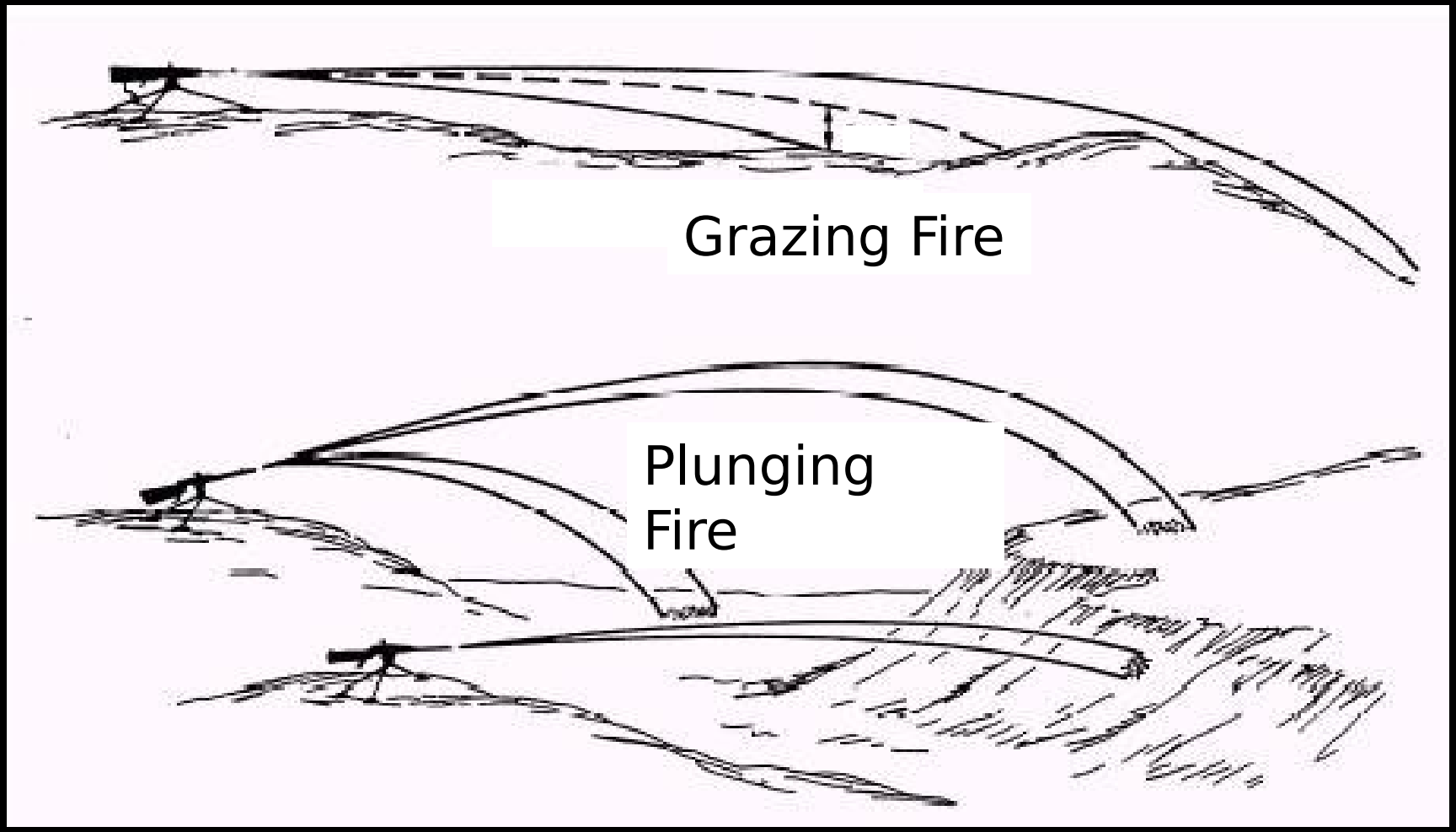
Fire in which the danger space is practically confined to the Beaten Zone



Plunging Fire

MACHINEGUN FIRE

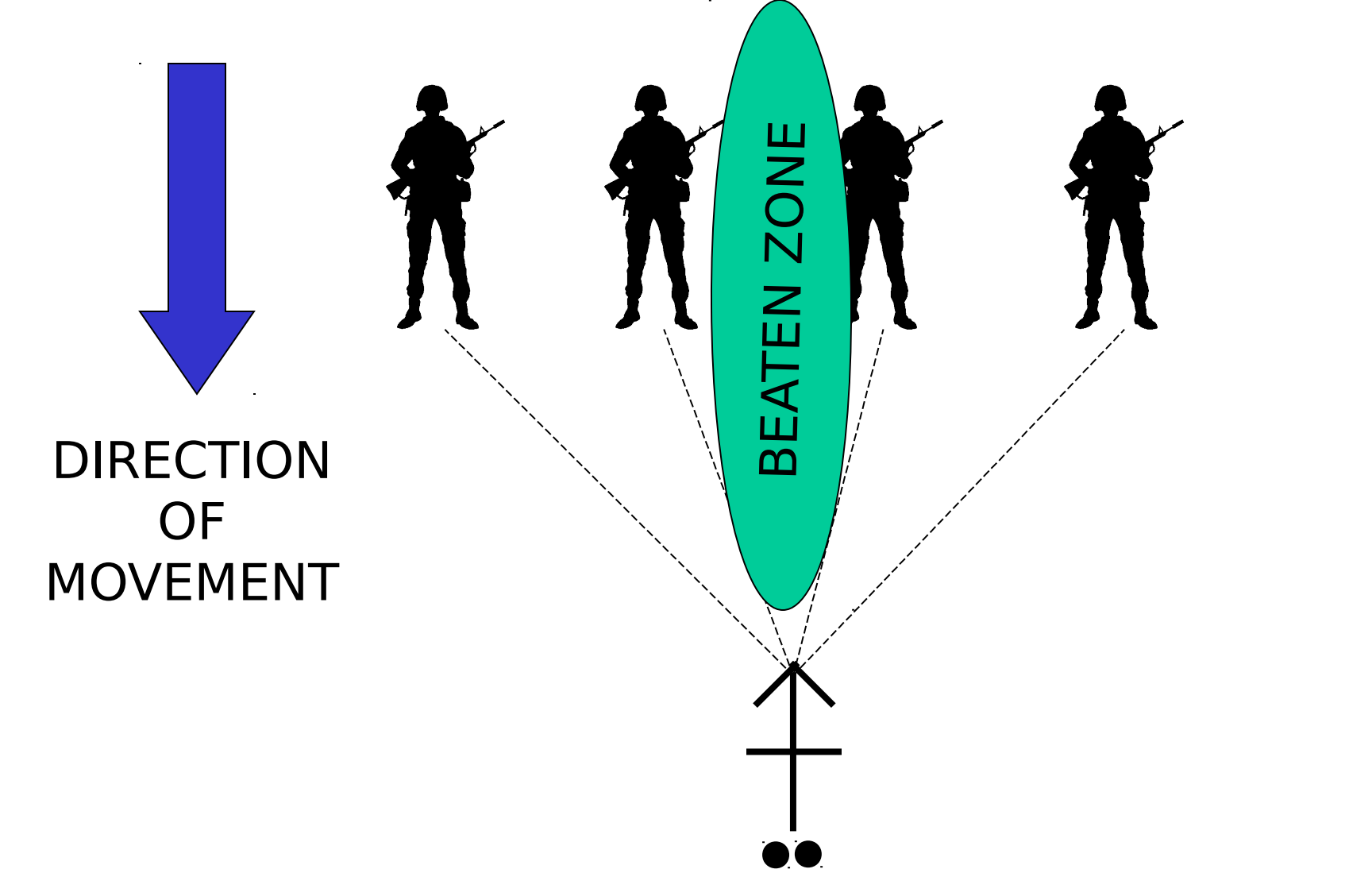
With respect to the **Ground**:



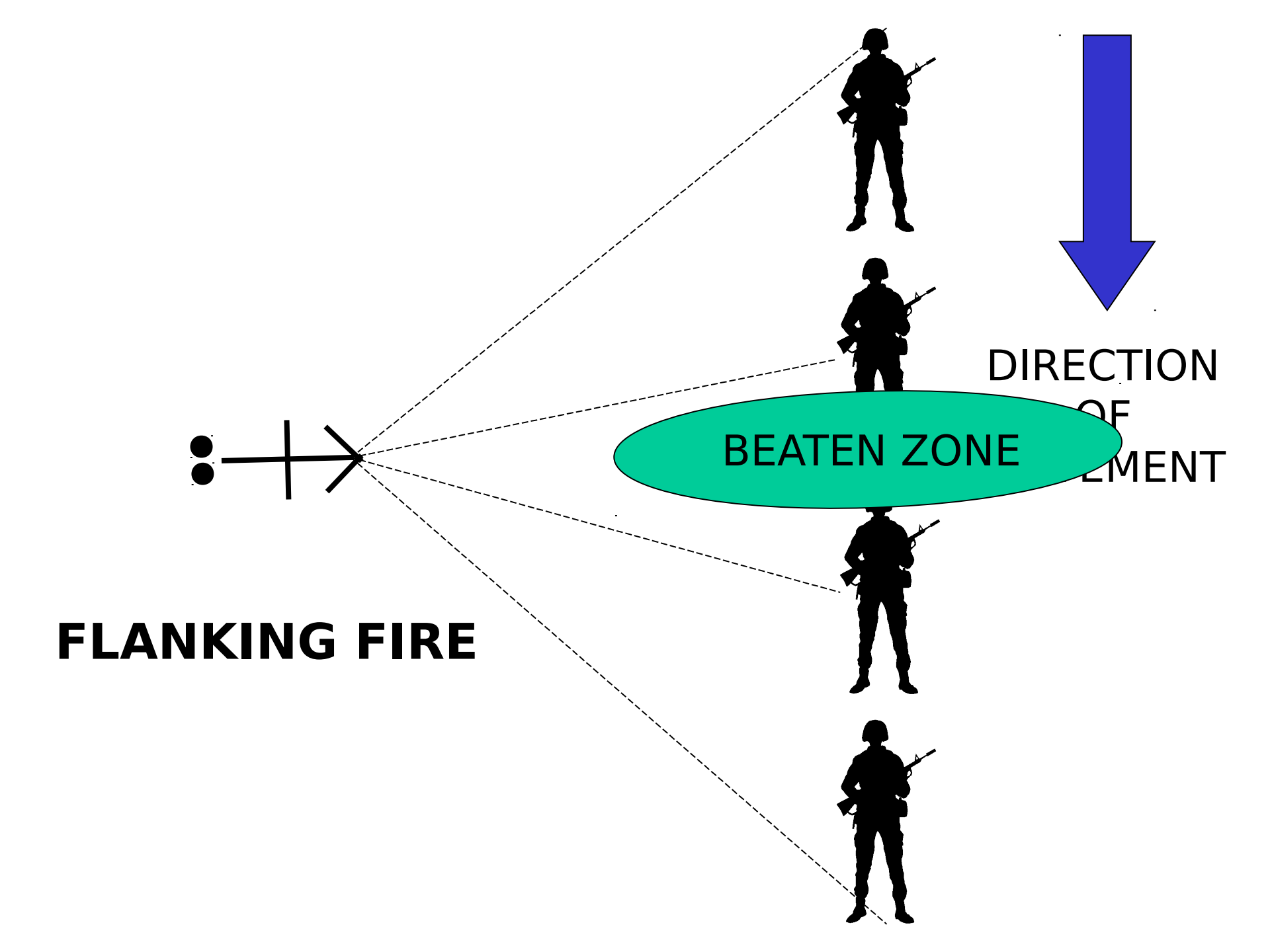
MACHINEGUN FIRE

With respect to the **Target**:

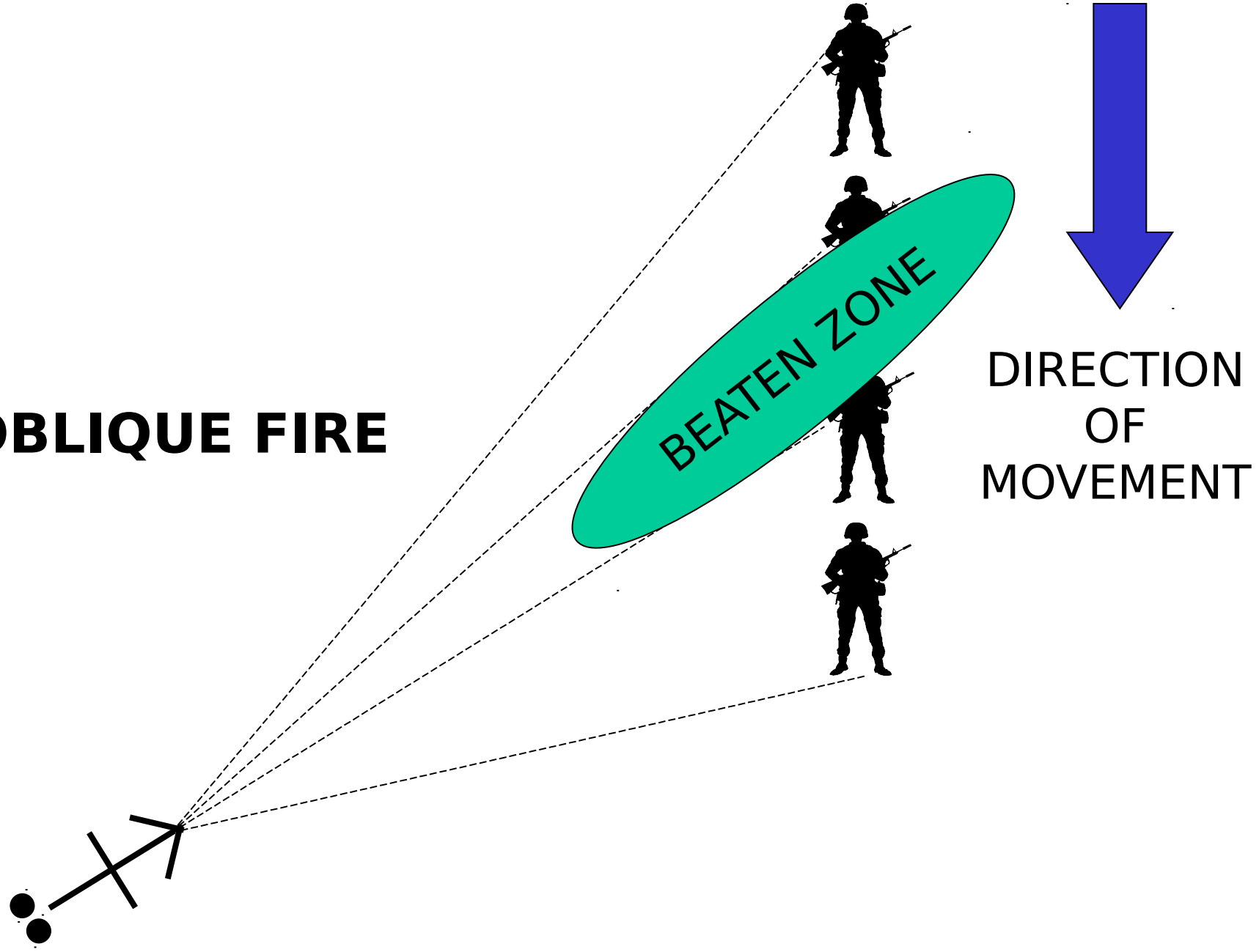
- Frontal
- Flanking
- Oblique
- Enfilade

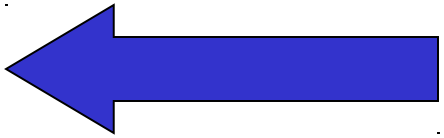


FRONTAL FIRE

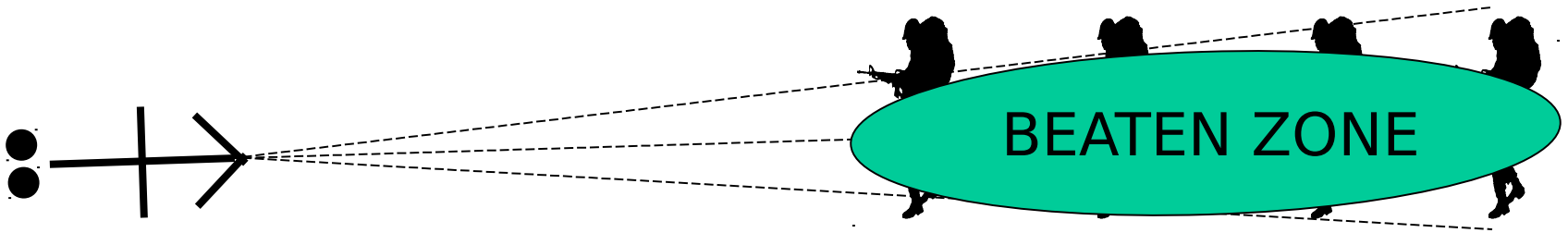

DIRECTION
OF
LMENT
BEATEN ZONE
FLANKING FIRE

OBLIQUE FIRE

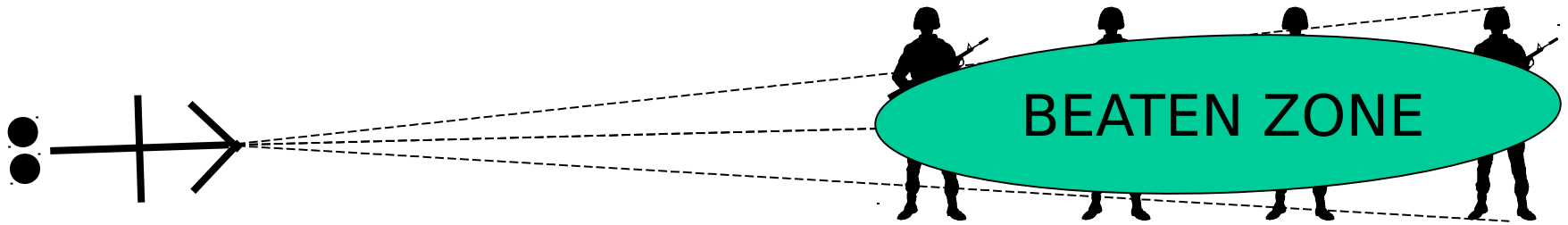




DIRECTION
OF
MOVEMENT



ENFILADE FIRE
(FRONTAL)



ENFILADE FIRE (FLANKING)

DIRECTION OF MOVEMENT

MACHINEGUN FIRE

With respect to the **Gun**:

- Fixed
- Traversing
- Searching
- Search & Traverse
- Swinging Traverse
- Free Gun

M240G CAPABILITIES

RATES OF FIRE:

- Sustained Rate – 100 rds/min
- Rapid Rate – 200 rds/min
- Cyclic Rate – 650-950 rds/min

RANGES:

- Max Range – 3725 m
- Max Effective Range – 1800 m
- Grazing Fire – 600 m

- **TRACER BURNOUT – 900 m**

AMMO CONSUMPTION

- How much ammo to S/N/D enemy
- How long attack will take
- Distance to objective
- How many guns in support
- Total Loadout

Platoon Commander’s Job!

R5 SCENARIO

- Supporting: (1) MG Sqd in support of attack
- Terrain: 300 meters
- Time: 15 minutes
- Rate of fire: (2) min rapid rate and (13) min at sustained rate
- Rapid Rate (2 min): 400 rds
- Sustained Rate (13 min): 1300 rds
- Consolidation: 600 rds

TOTAL RDS: 2300 rds

SOLDIER'S LOAD

Each MG Sqd (7 Marines) carries:

- M240G (26 lbs) x 2 — 52 lbs
- Tripod (20 lbs) x 2 — 40 lbs
  - (w/ Flex Mount and T&E)
- Spare Barrel Bag — (13 lbs) x 2 — 26 lbs
- Indiv Gear (40 lbs) x 7 — 280 lbs
- 2300 rds 7.62 ammo — 175 lbs

TOTAL **573 lbs**

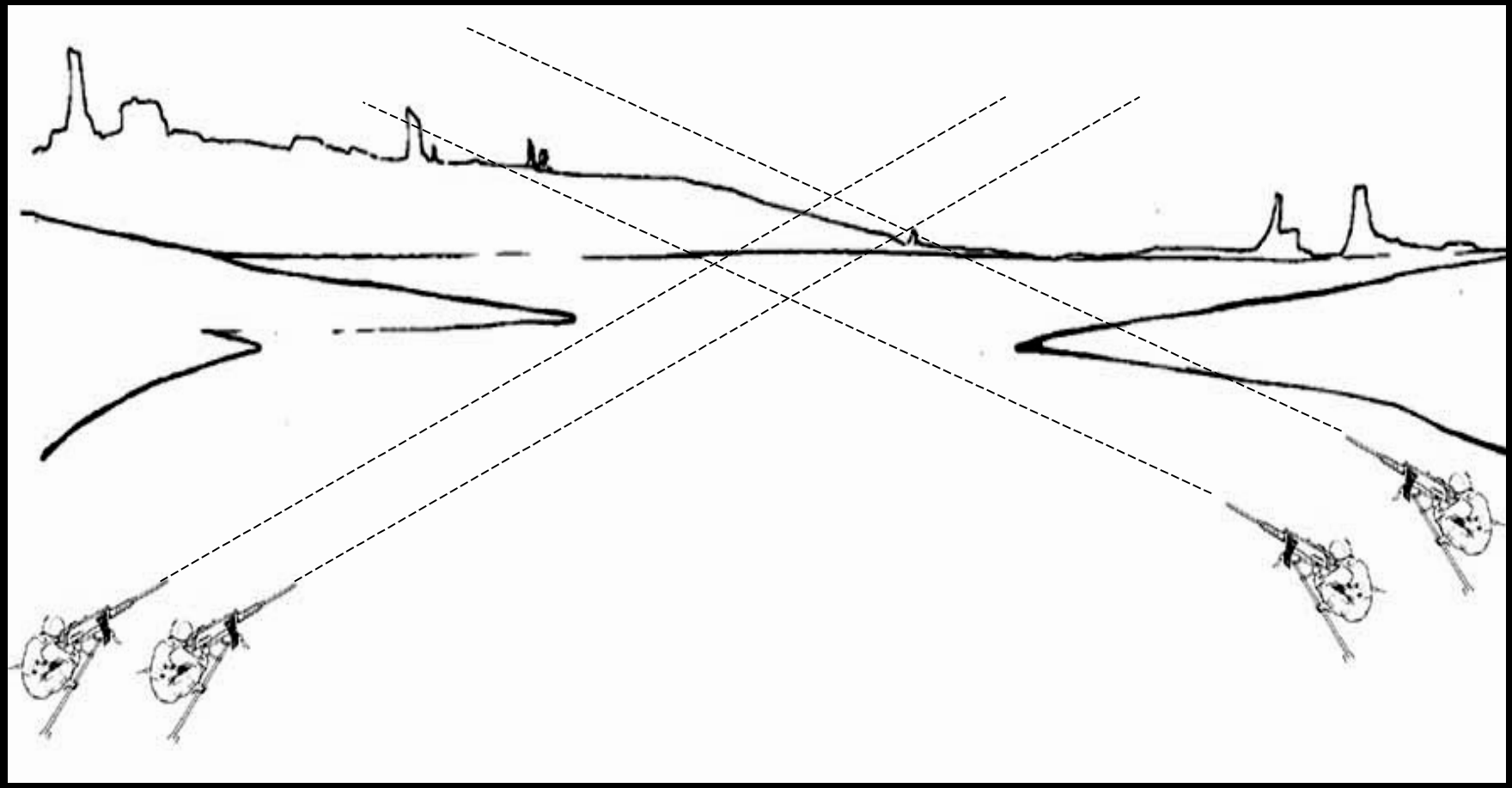
8 Principles of MG Employment

- **P**airs
- **I**nterlocking fires
- **C**oordination of fires
- **M**utual Support
- **D**efilade positioning
- **E**nfilade fire
- **E**conomy of fire
- **P**rotection and concealment

Employed in Pairs

- To ensure continuous, high volume of fire (redundancy of fires)
- Engage targets in larger width and depth
- Retain squad integrity
- Simplifies ammo re-supply
- Separated by 35 meters (terrain dependant)

PAIRS

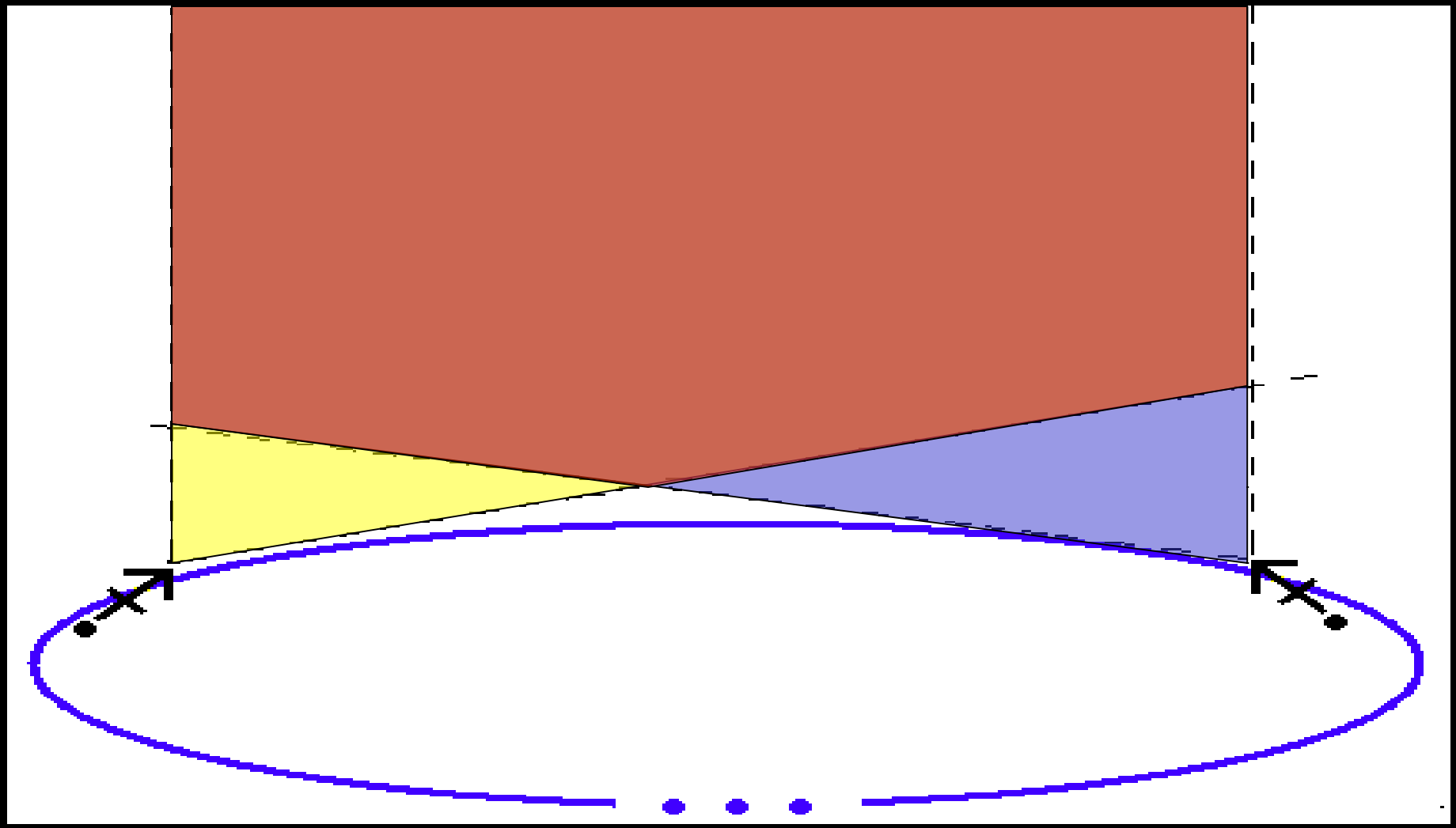


INTERLOCKING FIRE

- Prevent gaps in fire
- Place a wall of machine gun fire between your position and the the enemy.
- Redundancy in sectors of fire.
- Reinforce and double the firepower employed across a unit’s frontage.

MAXIMIZE FIREPOWER OVER A GIVEN AREA

INTERLOCKING FIRE



COORDINATION OF FIRE

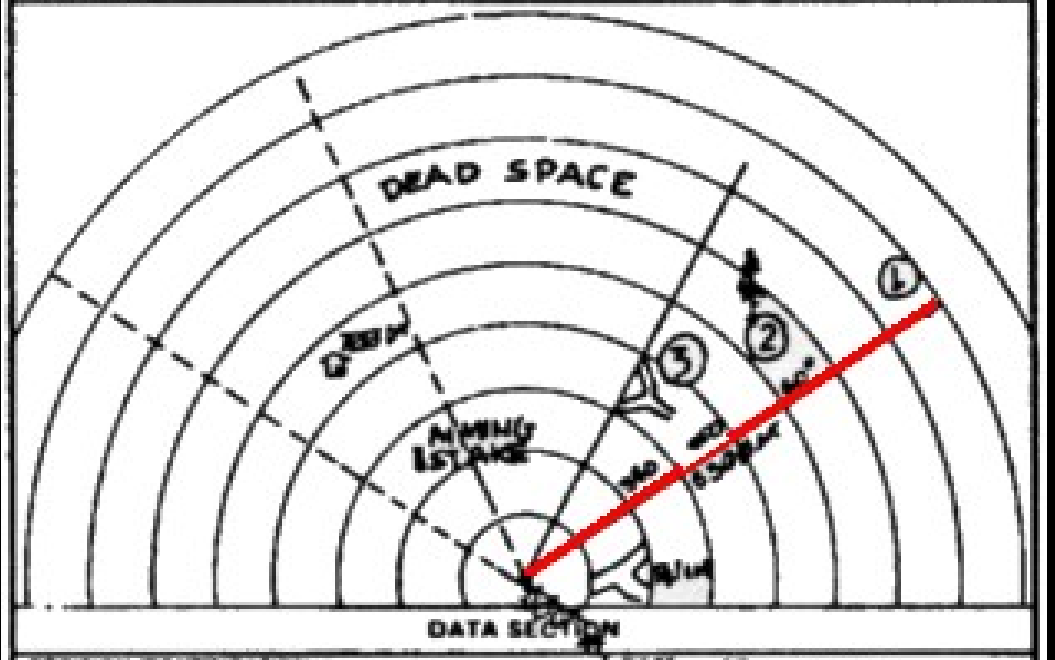
- Coordinating MG fires with other direct, indirect, obstacles, etc.
- A key step used to ensure MGs are employed at the right target and at the right time (Target precedence & Engagement criteria)
- Offense & Defense
- Physically ensure coordination?

STANDARD RANGE CARD

SQD 1
PLT 1
CO B

May be used for all types of direct fire weapons

MAGNETIC NORTH



DATA SECTION

POSITION IDENTIFICATION

DATE 10 JULY

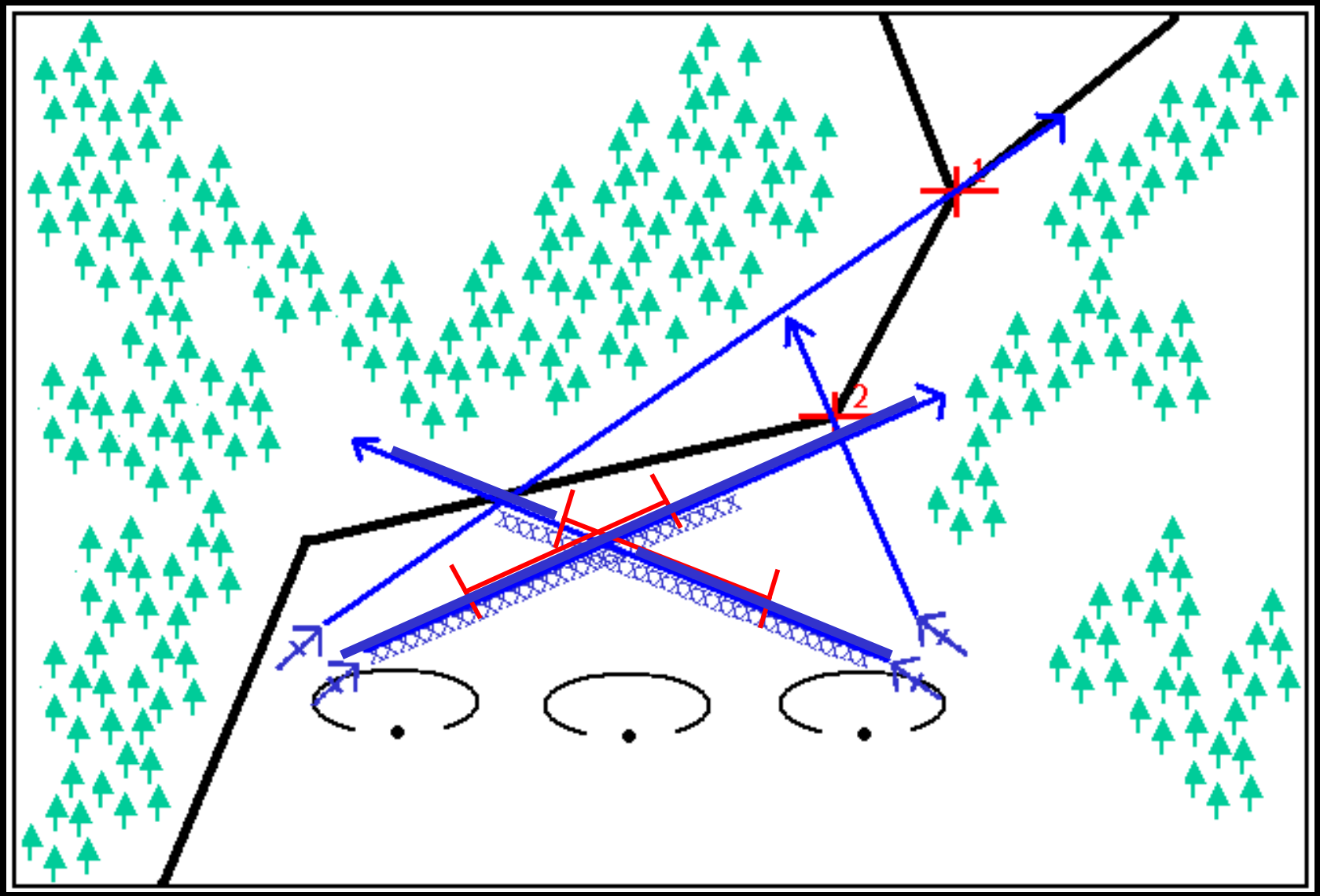
WEAPON MG

EACH CIRCLE EQUALS 150 METERS

NO.	DIRECTION/ DEFLECTION	ELEVATION	RANGE	AMMO	DESCRIPTION
1	/	+50/3	600		FPL
2	R275	+50/45	900		LONE TREE
3	L150	0/28	525		TRAIL JUNCTION

REMARKS:
① -4
③ TW15/LT

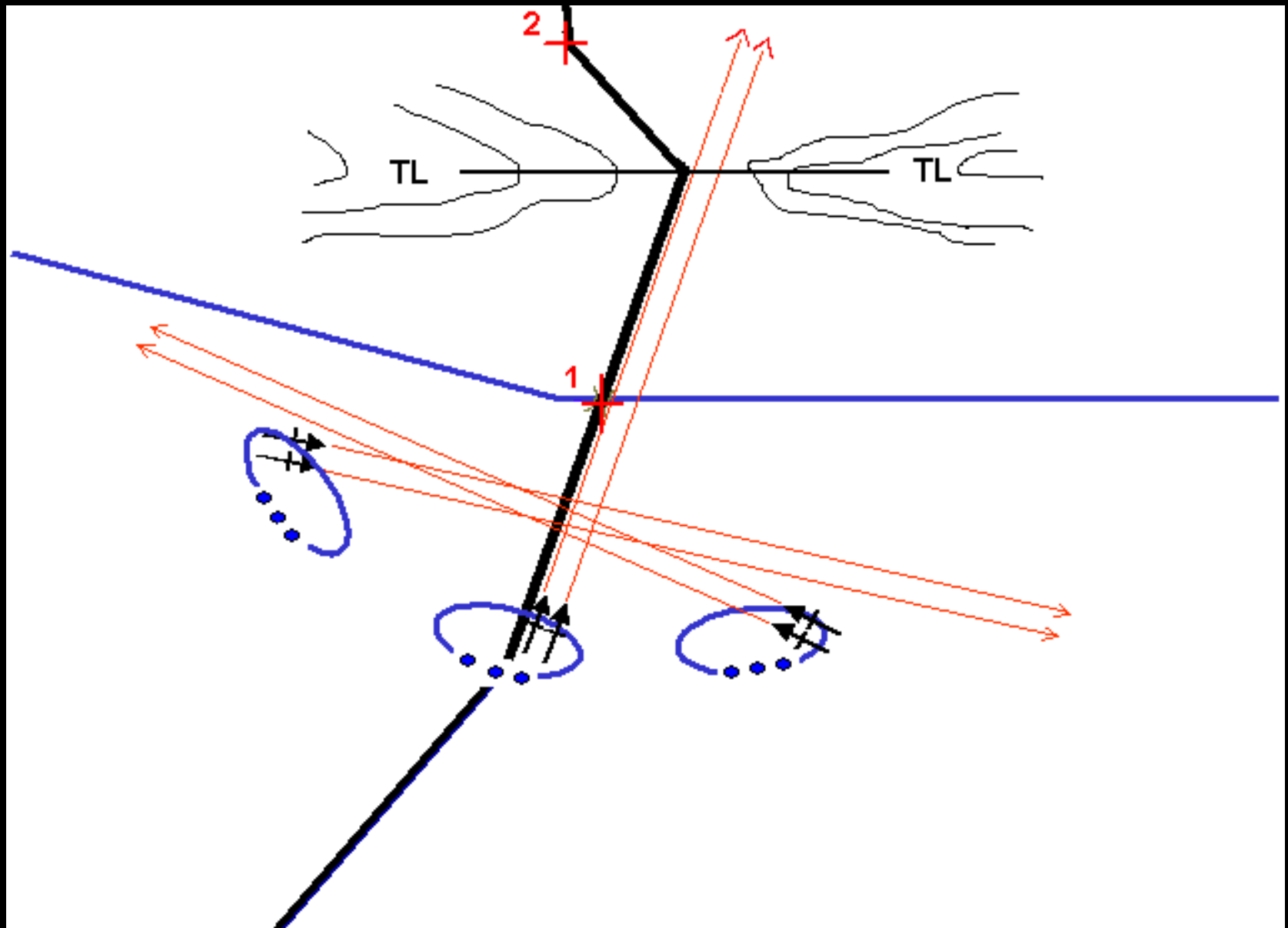
COORDINATION OF FIRE



MUTUAL SUPPORT

- Enemy attempting to attack one unit, will come under fire from an adjacent unit
- Cover each other by fire
- Is there a difference between interlocking fires and mutually supported fires?

MUTUAL SUPPORT

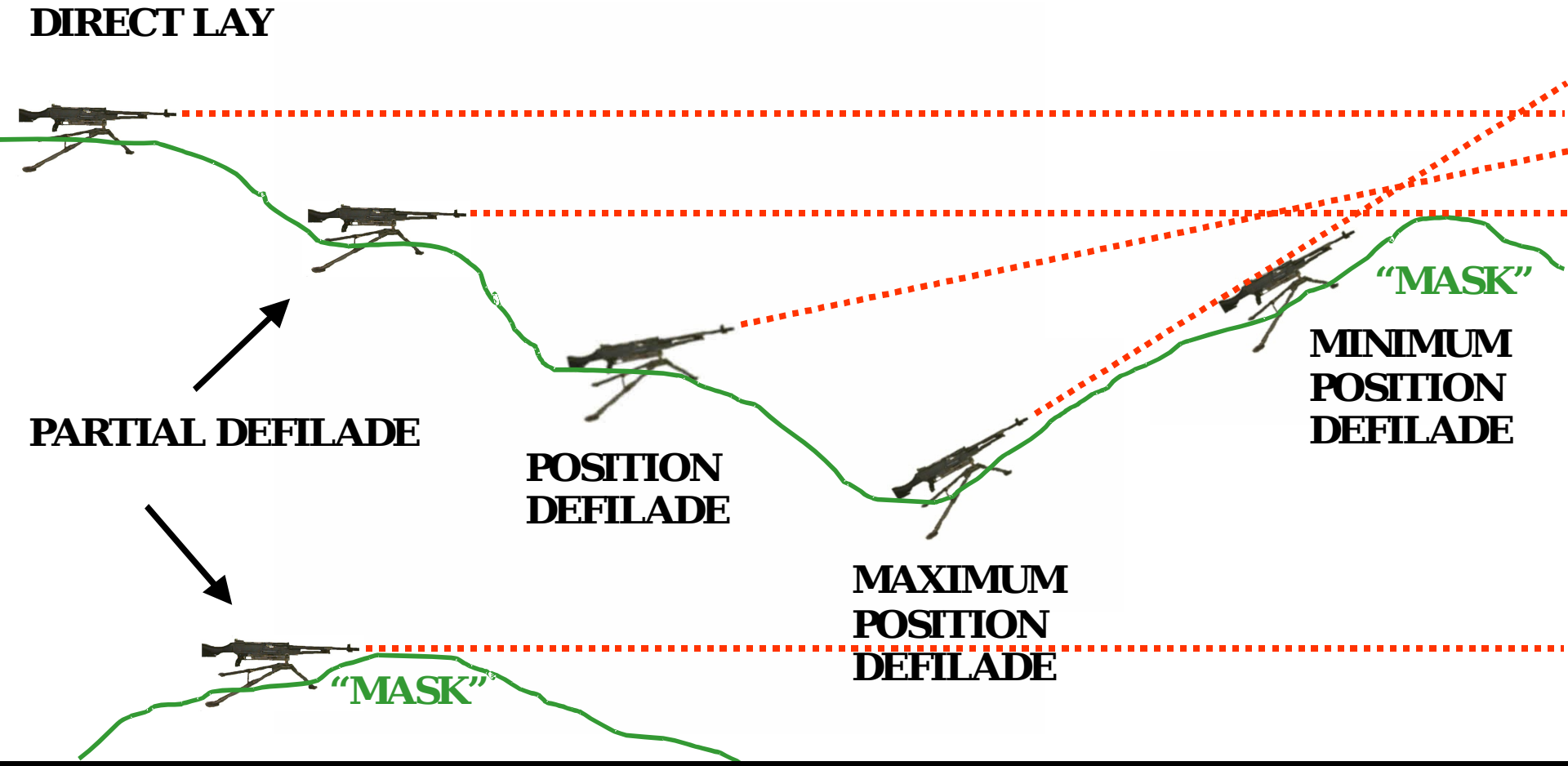


DEFILADE FIRES

- Protection from hostile observation and fire provided by an obstacle such as a hill, ridge or bank.

- Placed to provide cover from enemy direct fire weapons while in the defense or in a Support by Fire (SBF) position.

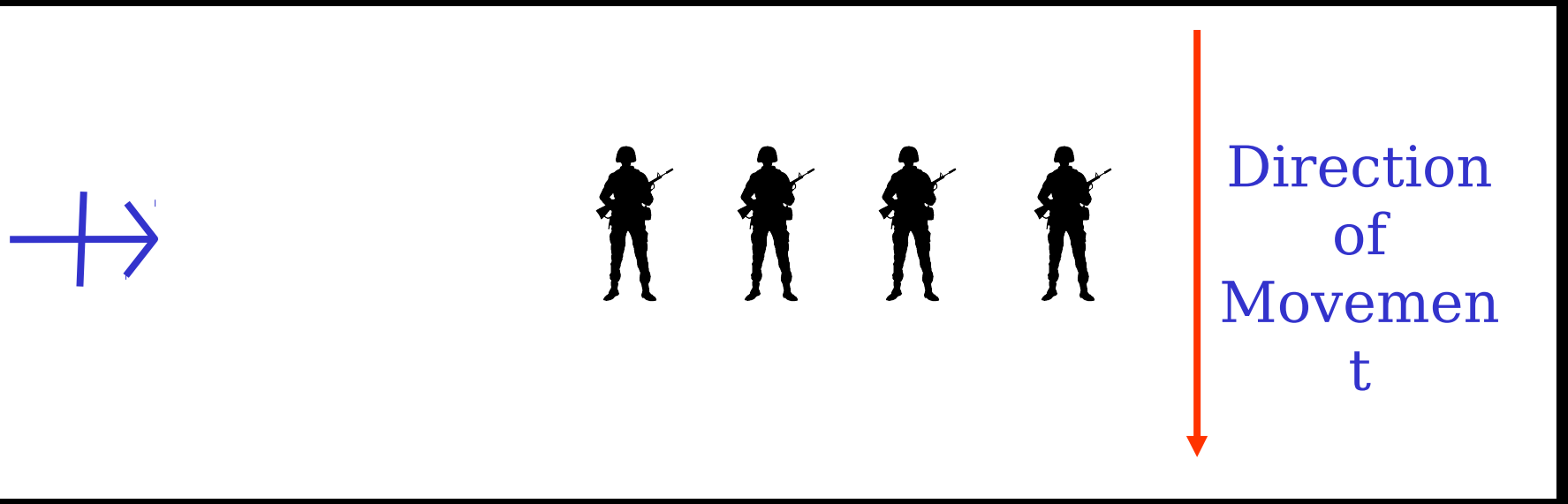
DEFILADE


DIRECT LAY
PARTIAL DEFILADE
POSITION DEFILADE
MAXIMUM POSITION DEFILADE
MINIMUM POSITION DEFILADE
"MASK"
"MASK"

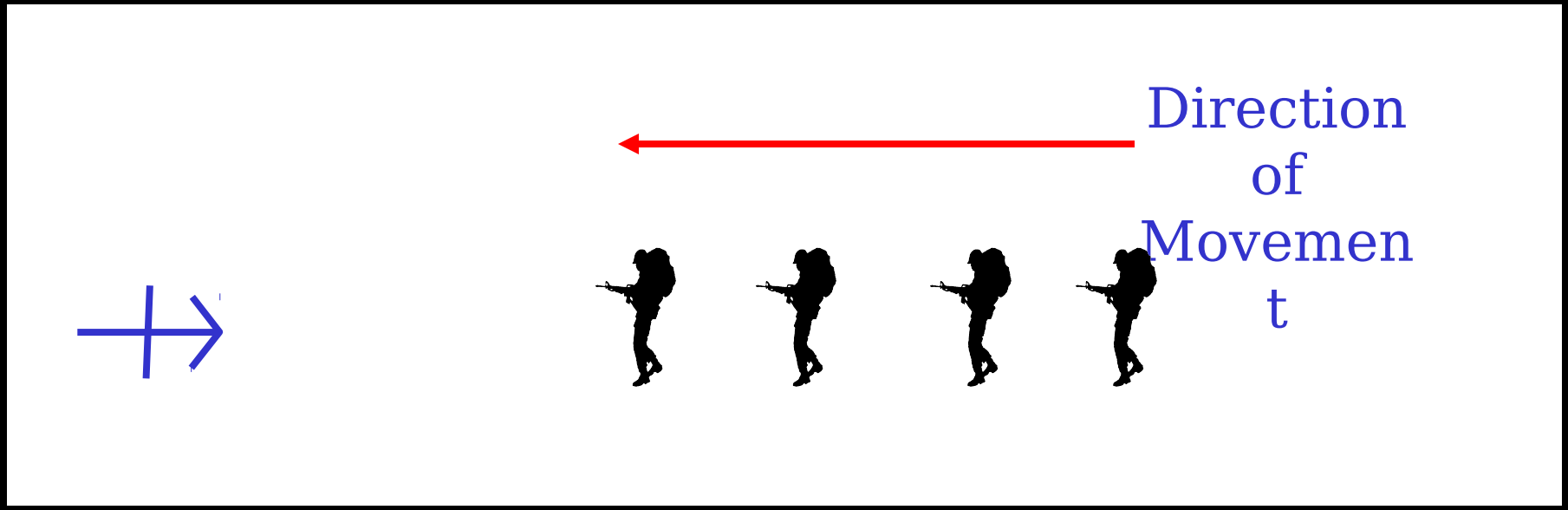
ENFILADE FIRE

- Long axis of the gun's beaten zone coincides with the long axis of the target.
- Flanking Enfilade Fire
- Frontal Enfilade Fire

WHAT TYPE OF FIRE?



What type of fire?



ECONOMY OF FIRES

- Ammo consumption and wear on the guns a concern
- Appropriate weapon at the appropriate time (engagement criteria and target precedence)
- Talking guns
- Rates of fire

PROTECTION AND CONCEALMENT

- Starts with “L” shaped Position
- Continuously improve and evolve into “T-shaped” or horseshoe position.
- Camouflage

“The time will come when even this ordeal will be a sweet thing to remember”

-Virgil

10 Minute Break

SUPPORT RELATIONSHIPS

- General Support
- Direct Support
- Attachment

What do you do with the machineguns?

SUPPORT RELATIONSHIPS

	USE OF FIRES	TACTICAL CONTROL	ADMIN/LOG CONTROL
GS	CO CMDR	WPNS PLT CMDR	WPNS PLT CMDR
DS	SUPPORTED UNIT LDR	MG UNIT LDR	WPNS PLT CMDR
ATTACH	SUPPORTED UNIT LEADER		

MACHINEGUNS IN THE OFFENSE

OFFENSIVE MISSION

- Provide a heavy volume of close, accurate, and continuous fire support to suppress and destroy enemy personnel in support of an attack.

- 4 Offensive Roles of Machineguns

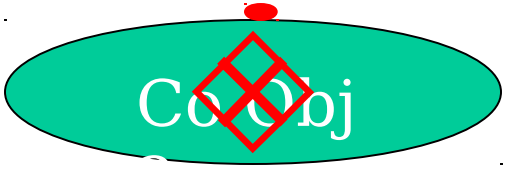
MACHINEGUNS IN THE OFFENSE

- Close Support Fires
- Long Range Fires
- Flank Protective Fires
- Fires in Support of Consolidation

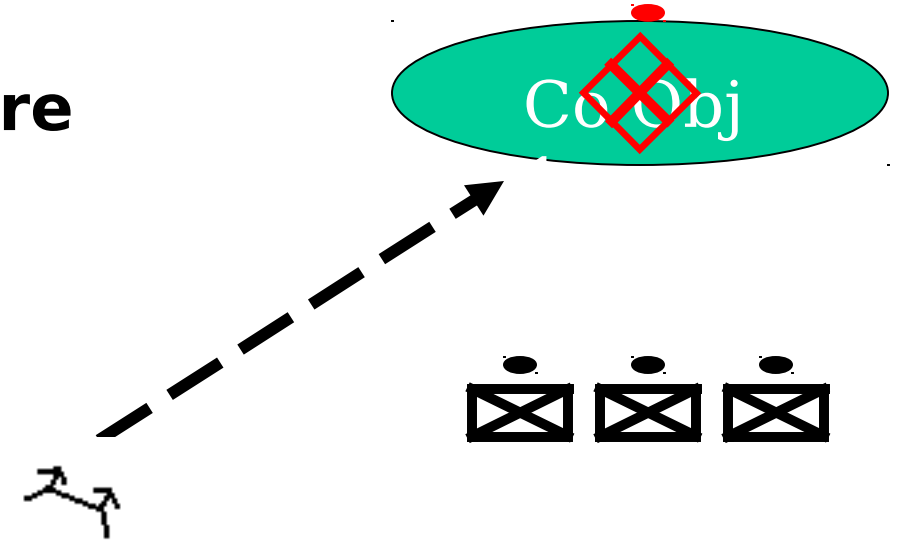
MACHINEGUNS IN THE OFFENSE

- **Close Support Fires**
- Long Range Fires
- Flank Protective Fires
- Fires in Support of Consolidation

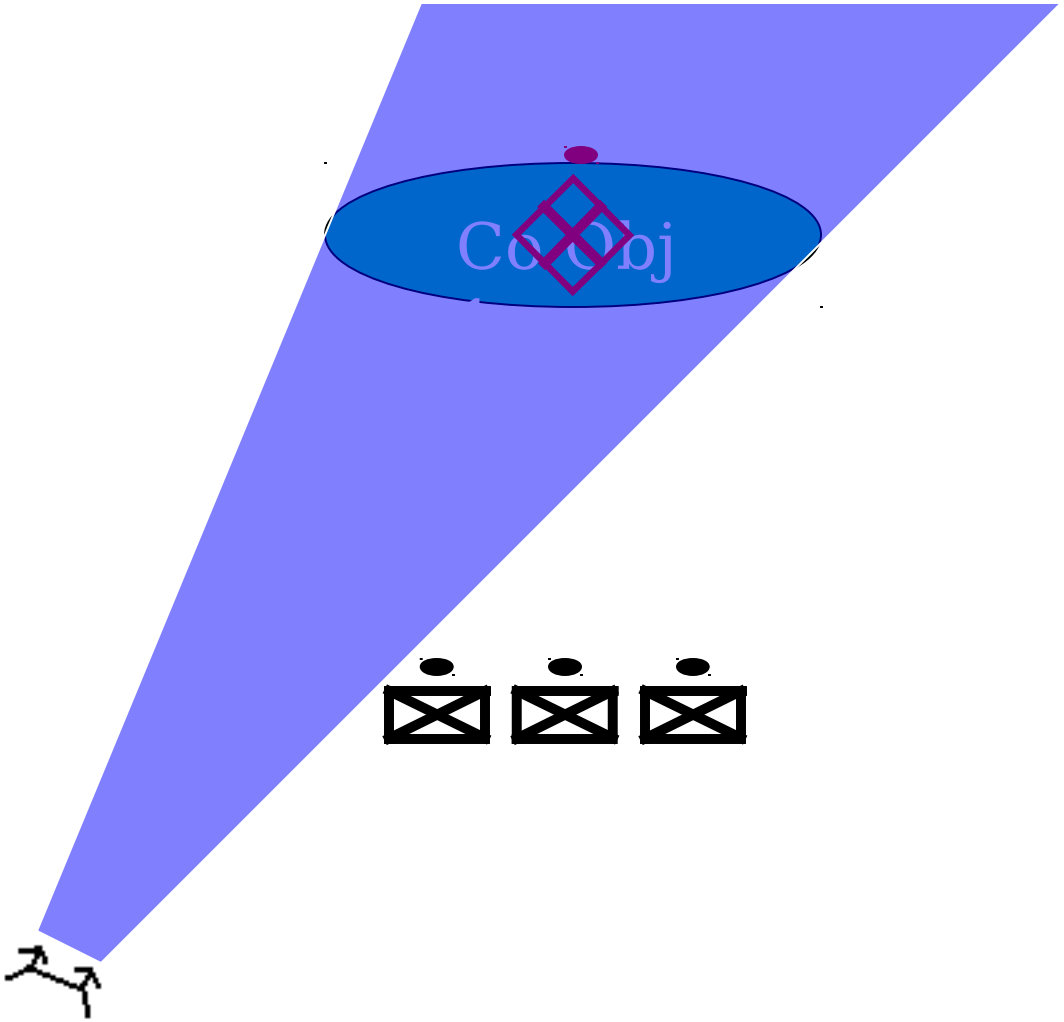
Close Support Fires



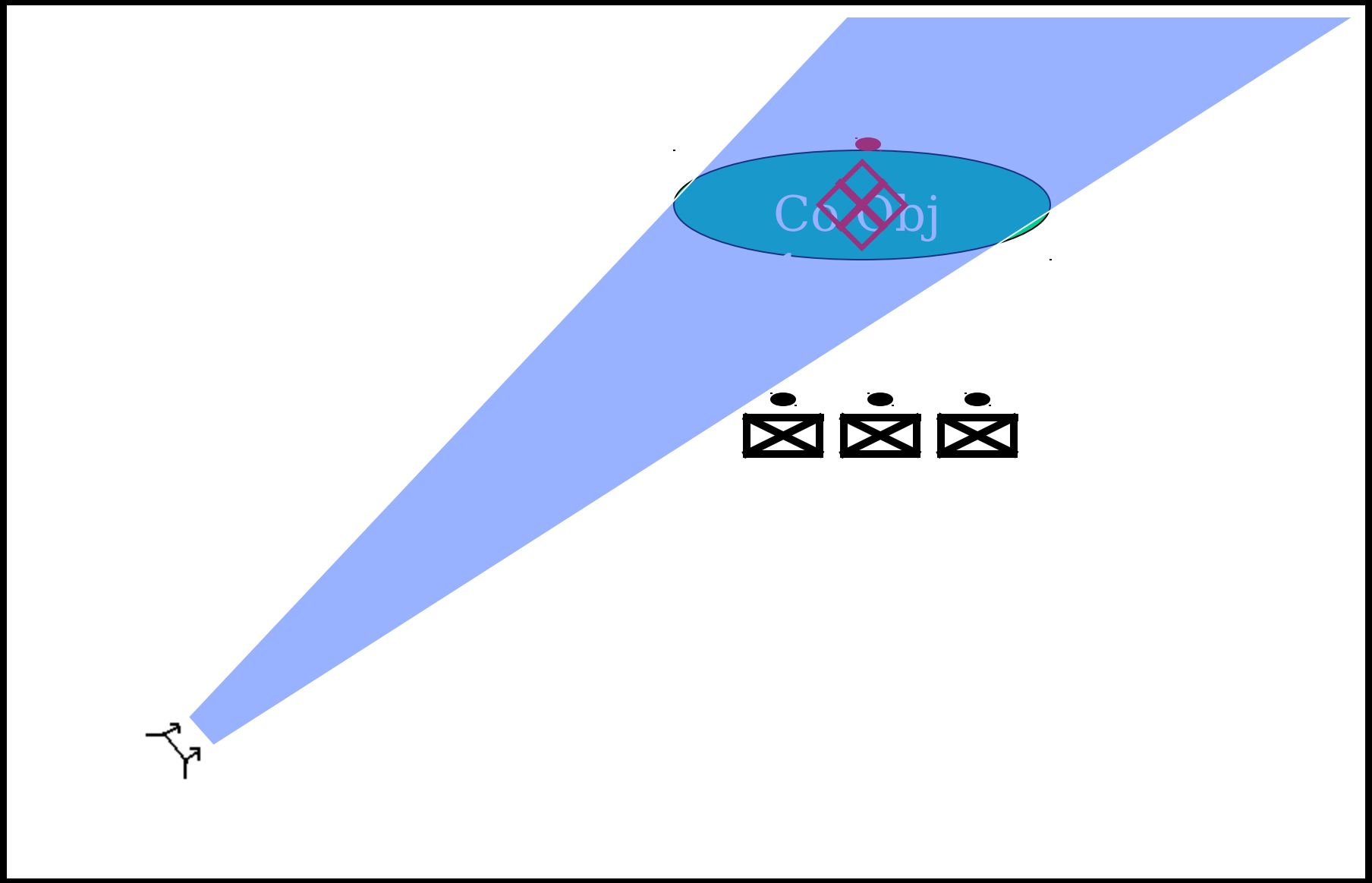
- **Against enemy objectives directly opposing attacking units**
- **Geometry of Fire**
- **SBF**



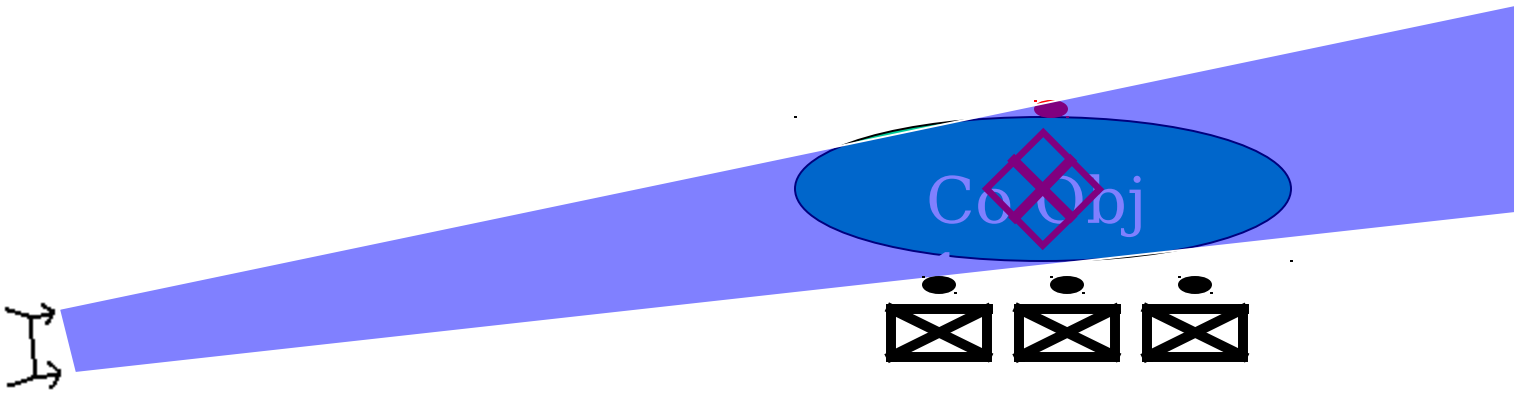
Geometry of Fires – Situation 1



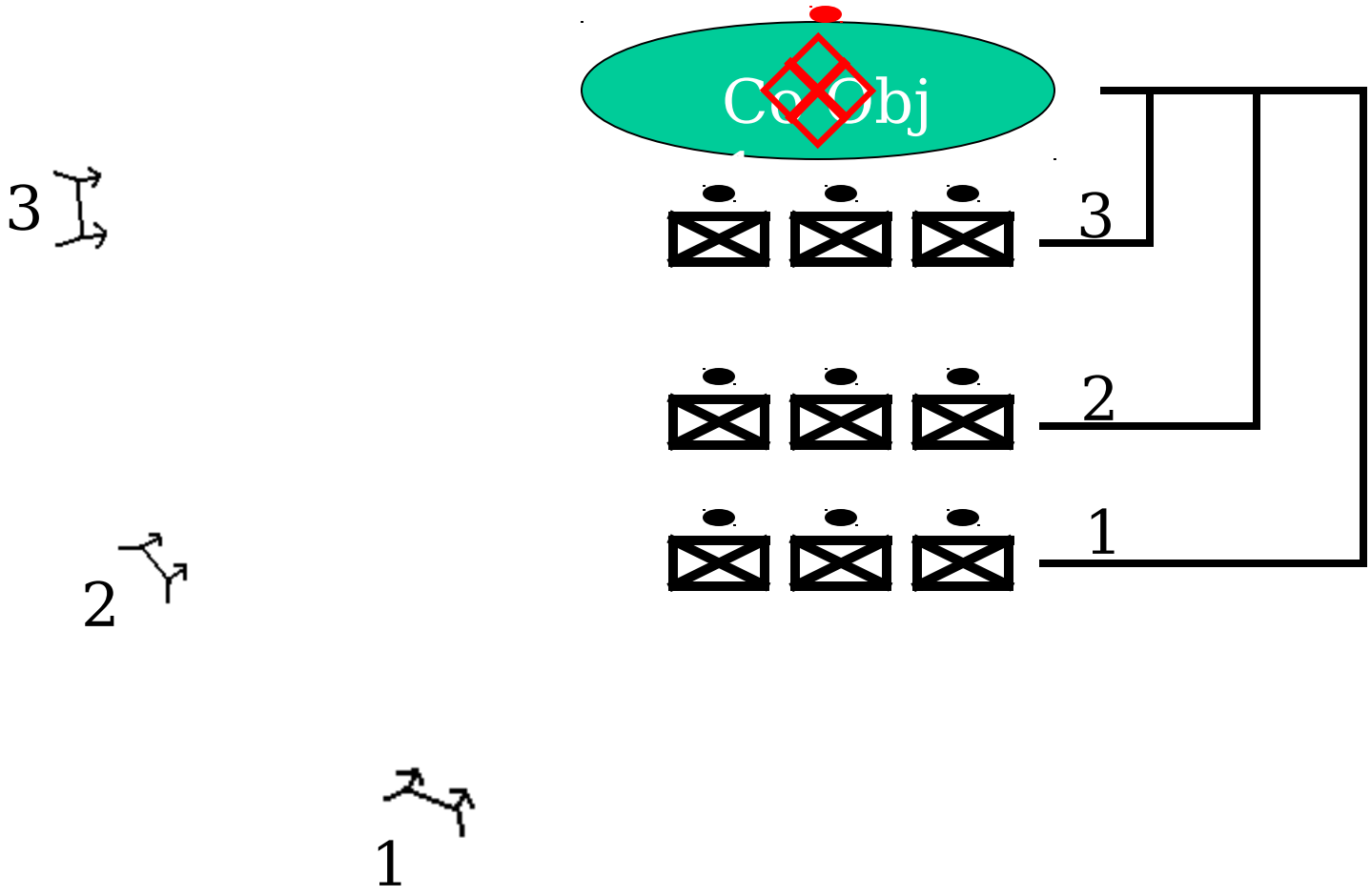
Geometry of Fires – Situation 2



Geometry of Fires – Situation 3



Geometry of Fires – Comparison



Keys to Effective SBF Position

- Within tracer burnout range of target (if possible)
- Good geometry of fire
- Elevation that will maximize grazing fire on target
- Location that provides for a timely displacement
- Location allows for visual confirmation in the event of no comm.

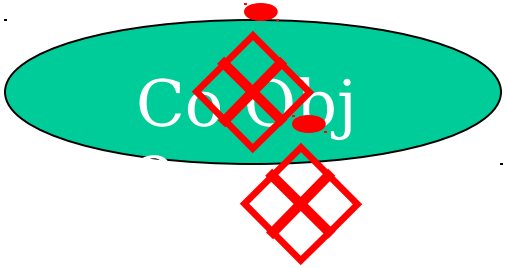
MACHINEGUNS IN THE OFFENSE

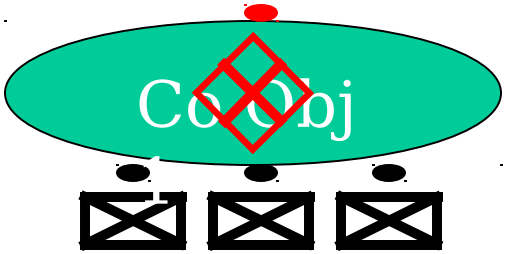
- Close Support Fires
- **Long Range Fires**
- Flank Protective Fires
- Fires in Support of Consolidation

LONG RANGE FIRES

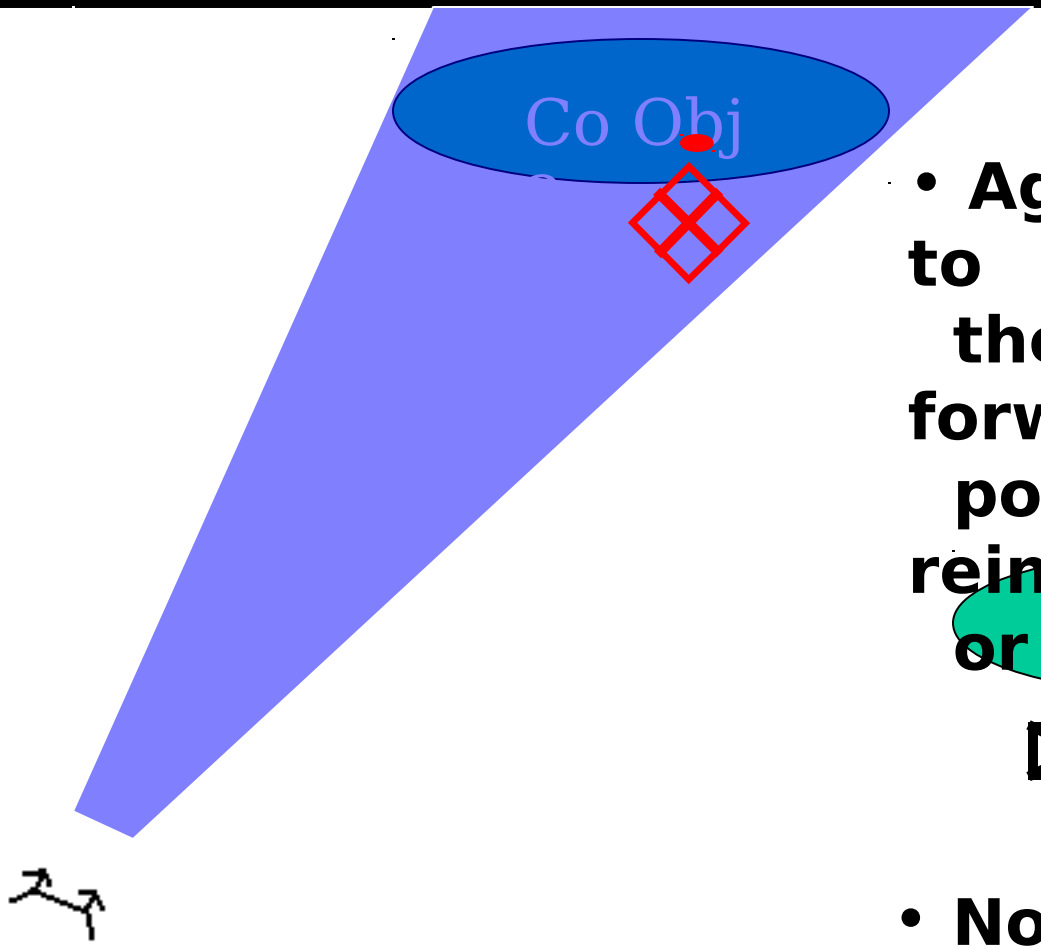
- Against targets in the rear of enemy forward positions (possible rein to the objective)
- No longer providing close supporting fires
- Use some of your guns to accomplish

Long Range Fires





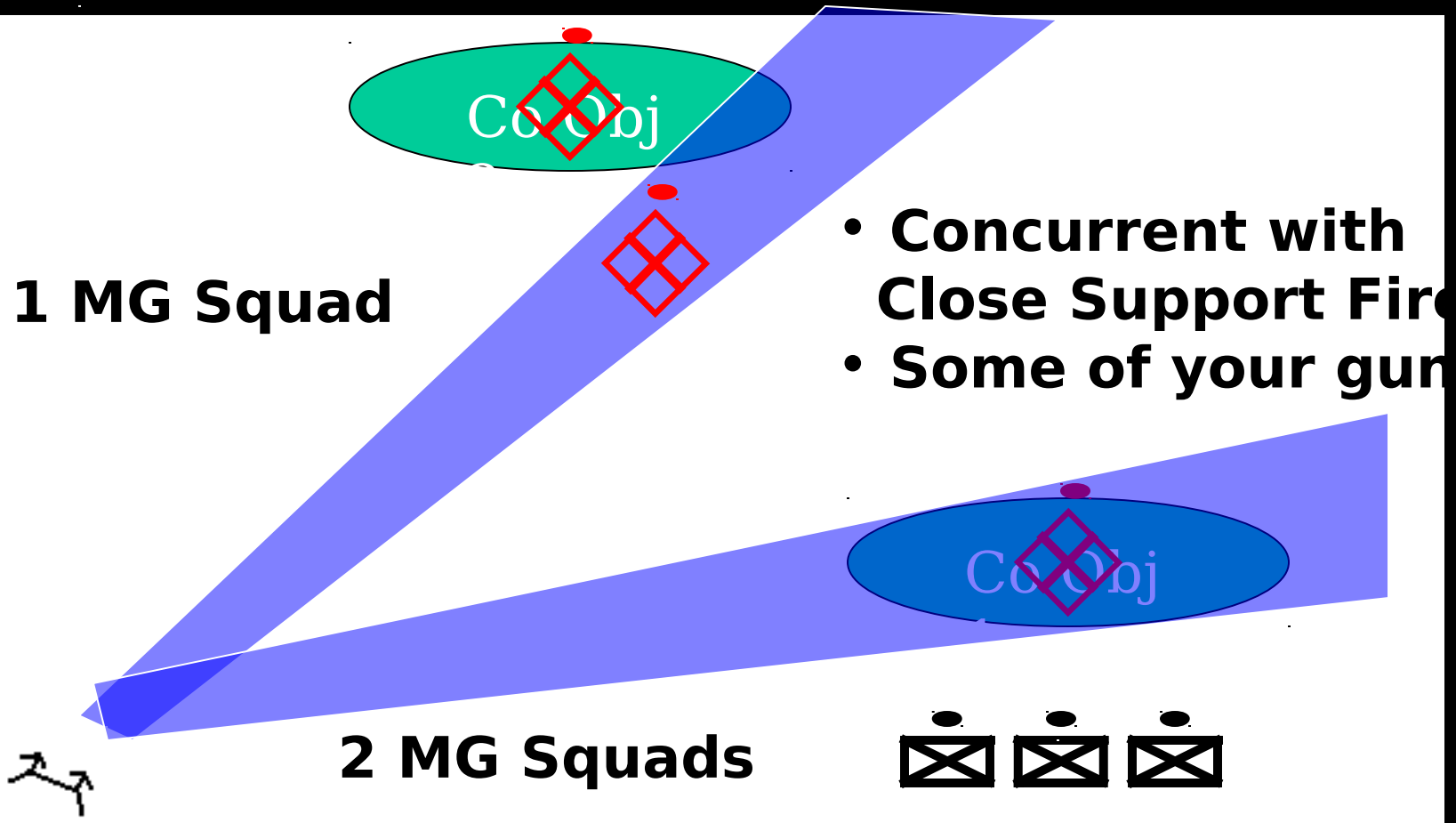
Long Range Fires



- **Against targets to the rear of forward positions (poss rein or counterattack)**

- **No longer provide Close Support Fires**

Long Range Fires



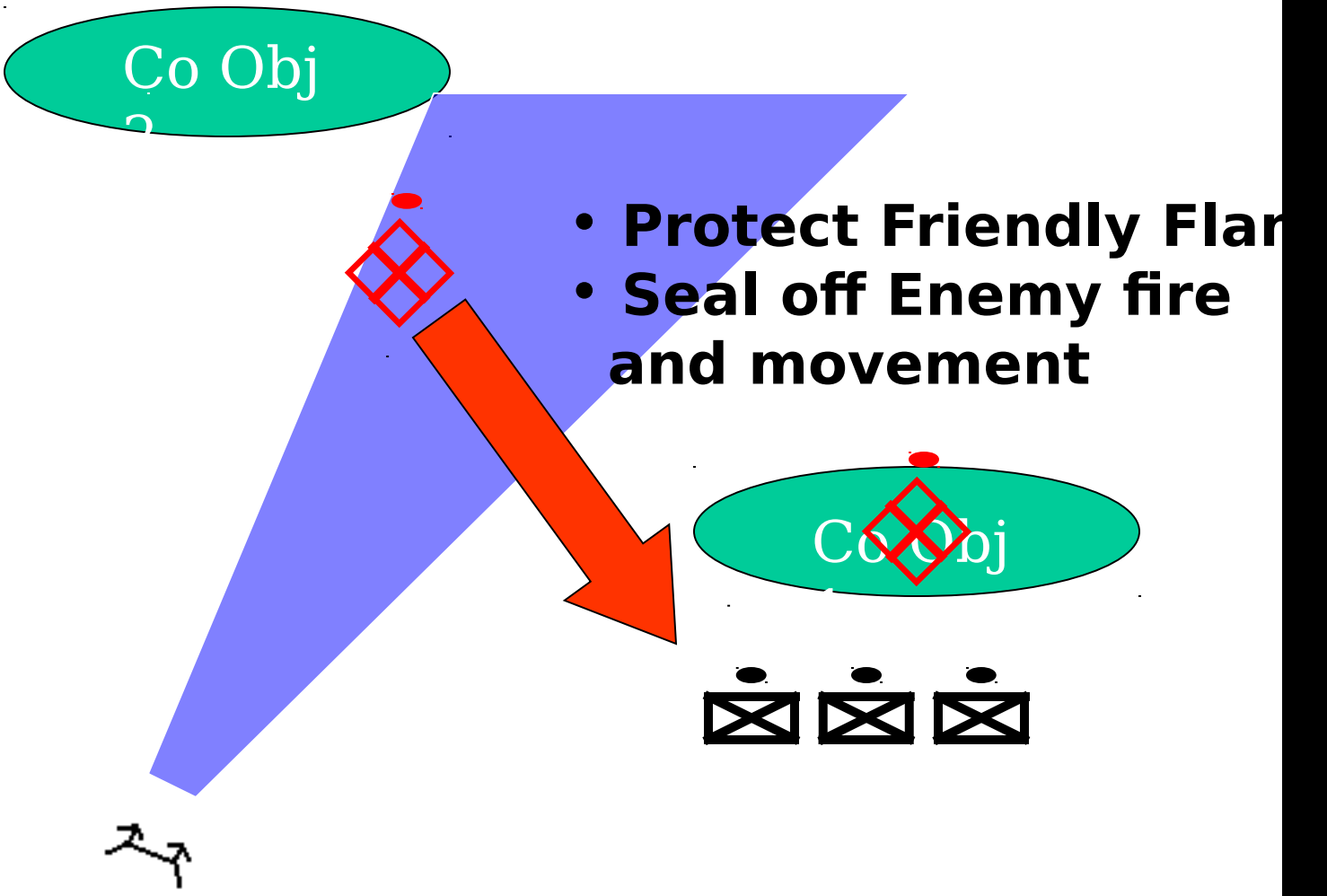
MACHINEGUNS IN THE OFFENSE

- Close Support Fires
- Long Range Fires
- **Flank Protective Fires**
- Fires in Support of Consolidation

FLANK PROTECTIVE FIRES

- Advance of a friendly unit creates an exposed flank

Flank Protective Fires



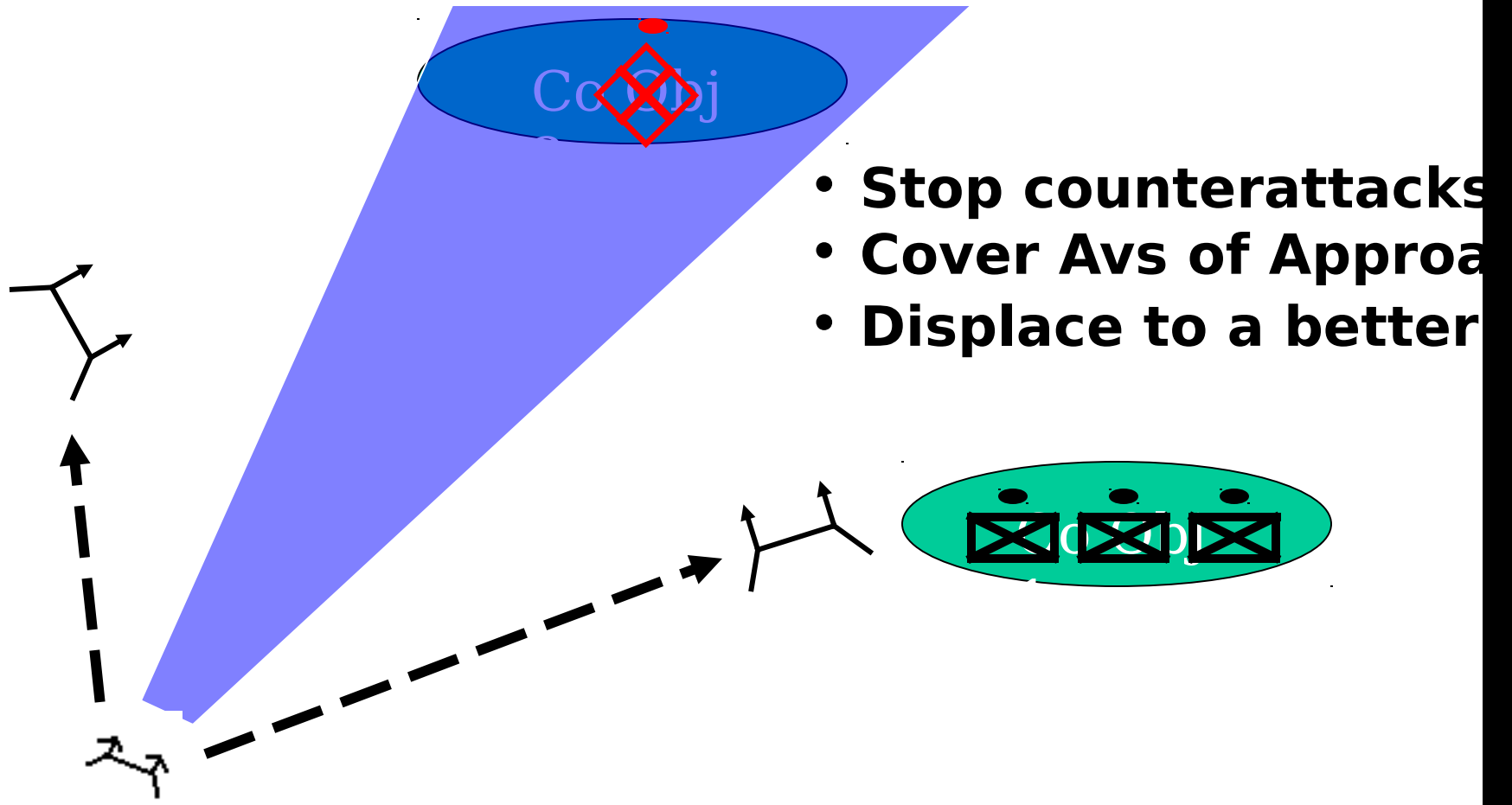
MACHINEGUNS IN THE OFFENSE

- Close Support Fires
- Long Range Fires
- Flank Protective Fires
- **Fires in Support of Consolidation**

FIRES IN SUPPORT OF CONSOLIDATION

- Units most vulnerable to counterattack following seizure of the objective
- Avenues of approach
- SAWs provide immediate fire power until MGs displace from SBF

Fires in Support of Consolidation



- **Stop counterattacks**
- **Cover Avs of Approa**
- **Displace to a better**

DISPLACEMENT

- M Method
- O Objective
- R Route
- T Time

DISPLACEMENT

- M Method
  - Unit
- O Objective
- R Route
- T Time

DISPLACEMENT

- M Method
  - Unit
  - **Echelon**
- O Objective
- R Route
- T Time

OFFENSIVE TASKING STATEMENT

- Support Relationship: GS, DS, Attached
- WHO: Team, Squad, Section
- WHEN: NLT time or O/O or O/S
- WHAT: Suppress, Neutralize, or Destroy from a SBF position or with an attacking unit.
- WHERE: Co Obj ?
- WHY: IOT…

FIRE CONTROL MEASURES…

FIRE CONTROL MEASURES

- **Target Precedence:** What do I shoot?
- **Engagement Criteria:** When do I shoot?
- **Rate of Fire:** How fast / slow do I shoot?
- **Target Reference Points:** Where do I shoot?
- **Fires:** Commence, Shift, and Cease
- **Displacement Order:** MORT

OFFENSIVE TASKING STATEMENT

- MG Section, you are in GS of the Company. NLT 0430, establish a SBF position in the vicinity of CP 7.
- On signal, suppress the enemy on Co Obj A IOT prevent him from interfering with the Main Effort's attack.
- On signal commence fire at the rapid rate on TRP 1 for one minute, and then go to the sustained rate. On signal, shift to TRP 2 and fire at the sustained rate. On signal, cease fire.
- Tgt Precedence: CSW / C2 / Troop concentration FT or larger. On signal, displace by unit via the most direct route to Co Obj A to support our consolidation. Save 100 rds per gun for consolidation.

WHO?

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MACHINEGUNS IN THE DEFENSE

DEFENSIVE MISSION

- Break the back of the enemy assault by interlocking walls of lead, crushing him with flanking enfilade fire (FPL).
- … frontal enfilade fire (PDF).

MGs IN THE DEFENSE

- 3 Defensive assignments of MGs
  1. Long Range Fires
  2. Close Defensive Fires
  3. Final Protective Fires
     - FPL
     - PDF

LONG RANGE FIRES

- Fire directed at enemy units not in the immediate vicinity of the defense.
- Preemptive & interdictive
- Used to break up formations and dismount enemy troops

CLOSE DEFENSIVE FIRES

- Fire directed against targets that present an immediate threat to the defense
- Targets within sectors of fire
- Must meet target precedence & engagement criteria

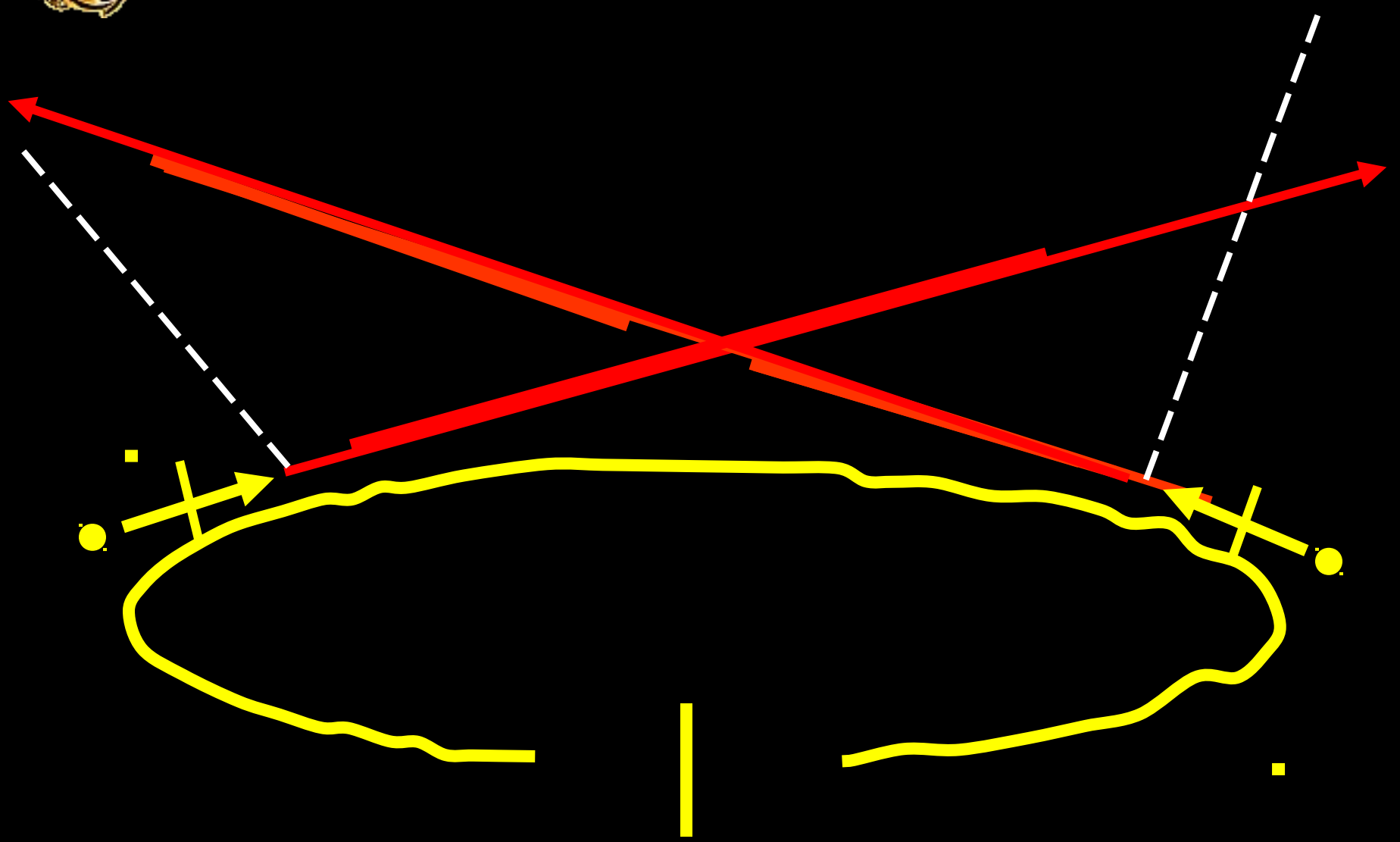
FINAL PROTECTIVE FIRES

- Fires employed when enemy has penetrated your close defensive fires
- Must be requested from company commander
- Final Protective Line (FPL) & Principal Direction of Fire (PDF)

FINAL PROTECTIVE LINE

- Protect the unit by firing interlocking FPLs across unit's front
- Produces flanking enfilade fire
- Steel on steel with tripod and T&E.

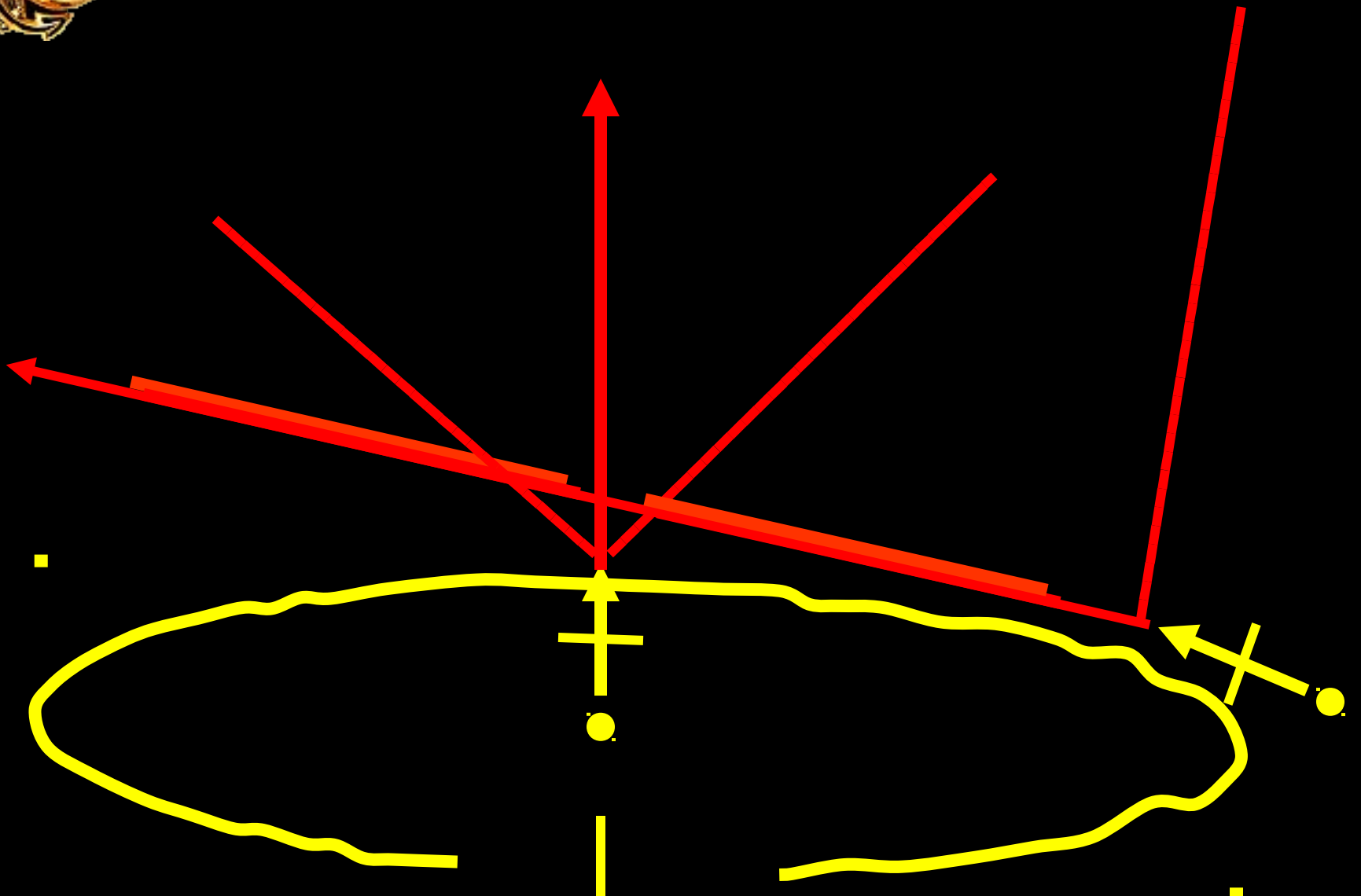
FINAL PROTECTIVE LINE

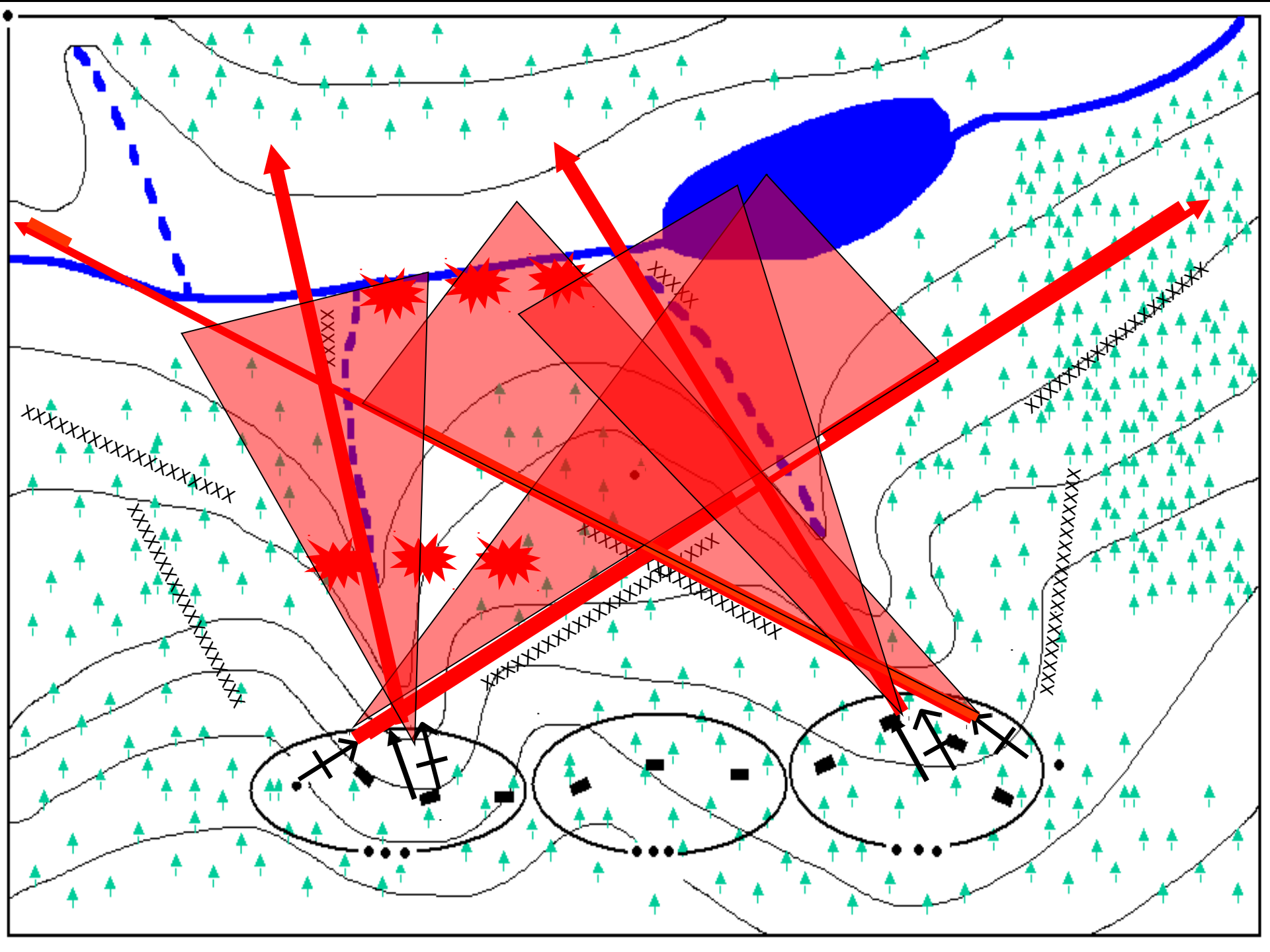


PRINCIPAL DIRECTION OF FIRE

- Destroy enemy along an avenue of approach by firing a PDF (if terrain does not allow FPL)
- Produces Frontal Enfilade Fire
- T/E on zero-line of tripod

PDF & FPL





DEFENSIVE TASKING STATEMENT

- Support Relationship: GS, DS, Attached
- WHO: Team, Squad, or Section
- WHEN: NLT time or O/O or O/S
- WHAT: Suppress, Neutralize, or Destroy based on your assigned role
- WHERE: TRP, Trigger Line, FPL
- WHY: IOT…

Additional Whats: Target Precedence, Engagement Criteria, Rates of Fire, Cease Fire, FPF Ammo, and BPTs

DEFENSIVE TASKING STATEMENT

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REVIEW

- Characteristics/Classes of MG Fires
- Soldier’s Load
- 8 Principles of MG Employment
- Support Relationships
- MGs in the Offense & Defense

QUESTIONS?